National Statistical System Assessment of
LIBYA

March, 2016
ASSESSMENT OF LIBYA’S STATISTICAL SYSTEM

Libya
Sahara Desert

MARCH 2016
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Acknowledgements

The assessment team would like to express deepest gratitude to all those who have contributed in one way or the other to this assessment. In particular, Dr. Abdulla Zeidan, the Chairman of the Board of Management of the Bureau of Statistics and Census, for his support, and openness through the period of remote communications and during assessment meetings, held in Tunis, Tunisia during the period 27-29/2/2016. Furthermore, we would also like to express our sincere thanks to Dr. Ali Grera, the executive director of the BSC, and the staff of the Bureau who paid their utmost efforts to provide information on the different issues of the assessment, namely Mrs. Khiria Saad Fridaa, Mr. Nabil Alganga and Mr. Munir Aladel.

Special thanks are also extended to Dr. Mohamed Ibrahim Saleh, Ministry of Health, Mr. Saleh Ahmed Keshla, Central Bank of Libya, Mr. Khaled Aoun Muhammad, Ministry of Agriculture and Mr. Salim Ramadan Meelad, Ministry of social affairs, for their substantial intervention during assessment meetings.
Executive Summary

The objectives of the NSS Assessment are to analyse and describe:

- The legislative and regulatory framework and institutional and organisational set-up.
- The statistical processes focusing on social-demographic statistics on one hand and economic (both micro and macro) statistics on the other hand.
- The programmes and methodologies of the statistical system.
- Capacity building and cross cutting activities.

The findings of the assessment will provide the groundwork for modernizing the Libya statistical system through drafting the first National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS).

The assessment shows the aim of the Bureau of Statistics and Census (BSC) to change and modernise the institution and NSS at large.

The BSC and the National Statistical System (NSS) need to be more visible at the national level, the issue which raises the need of modernisation in compliance with international standards.

The assessment noted that there are many areas of work which need to be prioritised in the short- and medium-term.

The Institutional and legal framework

- The legal framework needs to be one of the top priorities as a revised version had been submitted to the government to be endorsed. It is recommended to have the law revised, and to share the process with the partners of NSS.
- The strategic plan for the BSC and NSS is essential to draw the roadmap of modernisation, and to actualise the objectives of the NSS.
- The organisational structure needs to be revised to cope with the strategic plan and to cover the statistical programme of the BSC.
- Human resources are one of the fundamental aspects to be prioritized particularly in terms of capacity building.
- Owning a new building is in process. The new building will create a conducive environment for data storage, ensure data confidentiality, and provide room for expansion to take on new and emerging statistical needs.
The Statistical process

Strengths

- Since 2011, and despite unsettling conditions on the ground, the BSC is in position to mobilise its regional and field staff in order to carry out a large number of economic and social household-based surveys.
- The Central Bank of Libya plays a major role in maintaining the production and dissemination of up-to-date and comprehensive monetary and financial statistics in compliance with international standards.
- All line ministries are furnished with Departments of Research and Statistics, which have the mandate to collect and maintain administrative records and publish administrative statistics.
- Monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) and Producers Price Index (PPI) and Inflation Index are gathered and published regularly by the BSC. In addition, an Information Technology Survey was also carried out in 2013 and its results published in 2014.
- Social household surveys were carried out by the BSC covering crucial themes including Population Headcount, Family Health, Employment and Unemployment, thus providing a good basis for maintaining up-to-date social statistics.
- The Vital Registration System continues to record vital events at the national level, thus providing reliable administrative record-keeping statistics necessary for population estimates.

Challenges

- The current partition of the country prevents the BSC from carrying out nationally representative surveys that would produce up-to-date statistics in the economic and social domains.
- The current sampling frame on which the population master sample is based should be reviewed and updated.
- Limited resources and out-dated statistical tools thwart capabilities of official administrations for collecting and disseminating economic and social statistics.
- Civil servants responsible for statistics in the front line ministries are to be mobilised and trained to perform their duties adequately.
- Data collection methodologies for economic and social surveys and administrative records as well as statistical classifications and standards
are to be updated to comply with the needs of national policy-makers and users along with international recommendations.

• The BSC and front line ministries are currently ill-provided with modern information technology equipment that would provide them the means to carry out their statistical missions.
• Macroeconomic statistics covering the financial sector as well as the real sector (production of goods and services) should be strengthened to provide evidence-based statistics needed for decision-making by public and private users.

**Risk mitigation**
Recommendations cannot be made without considering risk mitigation options:

a) **Assume and accept:** It is important to acknowledge the existence of the current political instability which is clearly affecting efficient delivery of statistical services. However, statistical activities remain an integral part of providing socio-political stability.

b) **Avoid and control:** Due to safety concerns, it is important for the statistical system in Libya to avoid accessing certain areas that could threaten statistical personnel as the current capacity will be critical in the further development of statistics in the country. Continued data production is however important as indicated above which form an important part of the stabilisation process.

c) **Avoid and transfer:** In the event that the situation poses further threat to the statistical infrastructure, it is important to consider transferring some of the existing data to a trusted partner institution outside the country for retrieval at a later date.

**Recommendations**
The following recommendations are being made to the BSC:

Short term:

• Design a National Strategy for Developing Statistics (NSDS) that would include a work plan for a comprehensive household survey programme and the production of economic statistics for a five-year period
• Design a training programme on statistical methods (data collection and data analysis) for medium level staff in the BSC and front line ministries
Medium term (next 2 to 3 years):

- Update methodologies for data collection of social statistics in population and demographic events, standards of living and inequalities, labour, wages, health, education, gender, vital statistics, time-use.
- Update methodologies for data collection of economic statistics on CPI, PPI, business statistics, industrial production, services, internal and external trade, government finances, environment, customs, transport, agriculture, energy, tourism, and informal sector.
- Assess the relevance and accuracy of the population-based master sample methodology.
- Develop data collection methods for establishing business registers on industrial and service enterprises (small, medium and large size).
- Apply to international dissemination and quality standards developed by the IMF General Data Dissemination System (GDDS).
- Explore possibility of using electronic means for collecting data in the field and electronically transferring the data to the centre.
- Develop statistical guidelines (metadata) for all national statistical methods, concepts, definitions and administrative records applied in the country.

Long term (beyond next 3 years):

- Establish coordination mechanisms between data producers and users in compliance with national law and administrative settings.
- Design and carry out a new population census before the end of the current decade as recommended by the United Nations.
- Develop a comprehensive statistical database easily accessible to the user’s community through the web.
- Dedicate personnel responsible for updating the database on a regular basis.
- Design a monitoring process for the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
Cross cutting issues:

- The BSC has no adequate capacity to undertake statistical sampling, statistical weighting and statistical analysis.
- Development of competence profiles is recommended for BSC staff in order to guide training and development. (Competence profiling means delineation of necessary skills for effective and efficient execution of tasks in order to perform a set of functions spelt out in a Job Description)
- No regular update for sampling frames. Last update for household sample frame was in 2012, while last update for establishments sample frame was in 2007.
- The BSC to develop dissemination strategy to identify the general pillars for the dissemination of official statistics and the procedure that each data producer follows to launch publications and tables and to provide access to data.
- The BSC website needs further development to provide users easy access to official statistics, such development should include more user-friendly presentations, efficient search capabilities and tables that are downloadable in excel.
- The BSC to develop statistical calendar which includes release date of all statistical products, and made accessible on the website.
- Access to micro-data, Public use files (PUF) and metadata which enable the users to easily access BSC data.
- The existing user producer dialogue between the BSC and users in line ministries needs to be organised and strengthen.
- The BSC is in need to conduct regular surveys to measure the impact of using statistics in policy formulation and decision making.
- Inadequate GIS infrastructure in terms of equipment, software and qualified staff.
- The BSC has no GIS system and hence official statistics are not disseminated using statistical maps prepared by a GIS system.
- The current situation of ITC in the BSC is not adequate to build a solid technology and communication infrastructure, maintain an effective operational environment, and deliver high quality and timely services that support BSC staff to professionally handle their daily work.
Chapter 1: Background

Importance of statistics
Statistics play a very important role in national development. No meaningful national development can take place without statistics as they provide a basis for informed decision making and a basis for monitoring, managing, reviewing and evaluating national policies. Not only do statistics respond to government data needs but they also respond to those of other users such as the private sector, researchers, not-for-profit organisations, development partners and the general public.

In recent times, most governments have put in place national development plans with a number of goals and targets. To achieve a fair measure of success in the targets or goals set in the development plan, there is a need to set-up mechanisms to execute the plans, manage and monitor the implementation, and also review the extent of implementation and its impact. Statistics are critical at each of these stages.

The private sector requires statistics in order to determine where to invest, how much to invest and whom to target. Statistics provide the business community information relevant for market segregation among other things.

Researchers require statistics in their own format – in most cases raw data. They use data for further analysis beyond what may have been presented in statistical reports. Researchers also promote public debate resulting from further analysis of the data.

A number of projects are carried out by not-for-profit organisations at the national or subnational level. In order to implement such projects they need socio-economic information relating to the target population.

Development partners use statistics to implement a number of projects, and also to evaluate impact of their interventions. They thus need timely statistical information to guide their interventions, regional integration, and generally to report on development progress. The SDGs recently adopted by the United Nations will also require statistics to enable national governments to manage and report on their progress.
The general public needs statistics to hold the government and other authorities accountable. The general public also needs data for general knowledge that empowers them to make right decisions.

It is in this context that governments at all levels should embark on statistical capacity building in order to have a strong and vibrant statistical system that supports evidence-based policy formulation, management, monitoring and evaluation.

Statistics are of particular interest in fragile states where data are needed on a number of indicators that include political indicators necessary to monitor the de-legitimisation of the state, progressive status of the public service, human rights, and issues pertaining to “state within state”. In terms of social statistics, a number of indicators need to be monitored such as demographic pressure, massive movement of refugees and internally displaced people, well-being and quality of life. Economic indicators help to highlight economic developments affecting fractions of the population while environmental statistics will be critical to reflect the risks of disasters generated by natural forces and/or interactions between the environmental dimension and human activities. Reconstruction and prevention are some of the critical roles that statistics will play in a fragile state.

Statistics in Libya
The Libya Bureau of Statistics and Census (BSC) was founded in 1953. The Bureau was established mainly to undertake the 1954 Population and Housing Census. A statistics law was passed in 1953 which was then updated in 1963. The 1963 statistics law remains the guiding legal framework up to date. Although a review was undertaken in 2014, it has not yet been passed by parliament.

Following the 2011 revolution, the structure of the BSC has changed. In 2012 although still affiliated to the Ministry of Planning, the BSC became more independent as it separated from the General Authority for Information. A Board of Directors was put in place to promote independence and strengthen regulations of its operations. The separation from the General Information Authority, however, came at a cost resulting in cutting the BSC from its vital resources, including electronic equipment, database, statistical records (hardcopies), and documented metadata.
In terms of statistical activities, Libya conducted the last population and housing census in 2006. This was the sixth population, housing and building census that was eventually updated by conducting a headcount census in 2012. It is anticipated that another census will be conducted before 2020 to ensure it remains within the UN 2020 round of population and housing census. Business registers have been conducted and disseminated from 1992 to 2013. Like a number of other surveys, there has been a break since 2014 but efforts are underway to revive data collection. External trade statistics have been collected and published since 1966 but the process was disrupted in 2014. It was also noted that there is limited data sharing with the department of customs. National Accounts estimates are produced by the Ministry of Planning. However, the BSC provides economic data relating to household and industrial statistics. Balance of Payment statistics have been provided by the Central Bank of Libya through international trade statistics. Another series that was disrupted is the consumer price statistics which was suspended between 2012 and 2014 but has since resumed. As noted above, most data series were suspended between 2012 and 2014 as a result of political instability. In addition, there were limited resources available for statistics due to a dysfunctional government although statistics staff was paid salaries throughout this period. Detailed analysis of statistics processes is presented in chapter 5.

Libya has gone through a number of socio-economic transformations in recent years. As the country is striving to go through a rebuilding process, quality statistics will play a critical role to guide the formulation of sound policies. It is against this backdrop that the Bureau of Statistics and Census requested for technical and financial support from PARIS21 and UNFPA to undertake an assessment of the national statistics system in the country.

**Objectives of the assessment**
The objectives of the NSS Assessment are to analyse and describe the 1) legislative and regulatory framework and institutional and organisational set-up; 2) statistical processes focusing on social-demographic statistics on one hand and economic (both micro and macro) statistics on the other hand; 3) programmes and methodologies of the statistical system; and 4) capacity building and cross cutting activities. The findings from this assessment will provide the groundwork for modernizing the Libya statistical system through drafting of the first National Strategy for the Development of Statistics.
Expected outcome of the assessment

The following outcomes are expected from this assessment

- A common understanding or position on the status of Libya’s statistical system
- Initiate the design and implementation of the NSDS
- Engage the modernisation process of national statistical activities
- Road map for drafting the NSDS

Methodology

The assessment applied three main approaches. Firstly, there was a retrieval and review of reference materials related to statistical activities in the country. Secondly, a user survey was administered by distributing a questionnaire to a number of national stakeholders. The third mechanism was through interviews with members of staff of the Bureau of Statistics and Census of Libya. Interviews were also held with representatives from line ministries and other government agencies such as the Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Social Affairs; and the Central Bank of Libya. These interviews were conducted in the form of a workshop that was held in Tunisia from 27th to 29th February 2016. Presentations were also made of best practices from various countries in the region to expose participants to statistical developments in other countries.

Assessment institutions

The assessment was jointly undertaken by PARIS21 and UNFPA. PARIS21 has undertaken evaluations of national statistical systems in many countries in Africa, Asia Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, UNFPA is present in most countries supporting statistical activities and using statistics.
Chapter 2: Analysis of the current environment

External Environment
A number of external factors have a direct or indirect impact on statistical development in the country. External factors believed to have an impact on statistical development in Libya include political, economic, social, technological, legal, environmental, and international.

Political factors
There are a number of political factors that have a direct impact on statistical development in Libya.

Since the 2011 political revolt, the country has witnessed political uncertainties. Currently, the country is primarily split into two; two political authorities govern and control nearly half of the country. Although statistics remains neutral, its operations have been affected with limited resources dedicated to statistics activities. Use of statistics has actually become less of a priority as more resources are directed to conflict resolution. There is only one statistics office that is still responsible for producing national statistics for the entire country.

Lack of a clear political system in Libya has an impact on statistical development. The country has had no real parliament but instead a network of congresses that makes decisions at the local level.

Despite the current challenges, it is worth noting that civil servants are still receiving their monthly salaries. Furthermore, officials responsible for statistical activities are very committed and resilient in carrying out their mandate despite political, administrative and security uncertainties.

In order to support the rebuilding process, the country needs good statistics that will help formulate, manage, and monitor sound policies that could benefit the people of Libya.
Economic factors
Economic factors, especially at the macro level, create opportunities or threats to statistical development in a country. Unfortunately in Libya, current factors pose a threat. The country is facing two major economic setbacks. The first economic setback is the recent world recession that has led to many countries reviewing their expenditure patterns. Secondly, the fall of oil prices across the globe has greatly affected the country’s economy. Libya generates about 95 percent of its export revenue from oil. This revenue in turn contributes to about 99 percent of government income and has greatly paralyzed government operations which subsequently affect statistical operations.

Social factors
Libya has for a long time recorded impressive socio-economic indicators. The population is small with a low population growth rate. Crude birth rates and crude death rates have generally been low. Life expectancy is quite high (about 78 for total population). Literacy rate is also regarded quite high (above 80 percent). These factors could contribute to a flow of employees for the national statistical system in the country.

Technological factors
The boom in technological innovations has created more opportunities for statistical developments. The emergence of computers, internet, social media and handheld devices has created new ways of data collection, data exchange, data analysis and dissemination.

Despite these opportunities, political chaos and heightened insecurity have contributed to dramatic increases in price for internet connectivity in Libya. Telecommunications services have been regularly disrupted particularly in the eastern part of the country. The polarized political scene has also eroded the rule of law required to guide users of technology such as social media, geospatial data and other online services all of which contribute to statistical development particularly in modern times. Availability of computers at the BSC is not adequate as there are about two users per computer. The capacity for the server for internet and intranet services is not adequate to facilitate data collection using modern mechanisms such as online data collection, use of computers for field data collection and using data from the sectors through ongoing activities.
Legal factors
The BSC was established in 1953 as an official entity responsible for producing and analysing official demographic, social, economic, and environment statistics. Its mandate includes carrying out population censuses with its associated agriculture, establishments and building censuses. It also carries out economic and household expenditures surveys, as well as demographic surveys.

The establishing law grants the BSC a status of independence from the political and administrative authorities even though it is considered as a public administration.

The current socio-political situation in Libya may create an opportunity to start anew and create a modern national statistical system.

Environmental factors
More than 80 percent of the total land area of Libya is desert or semi-desert. The majority of the total population (about 78 percent) lives in urban areas. The hot, dry and dusty climatic conditions in most parts of the country pose a threat to statistical undertakings. Dust and sand storms continue to threaten statistical undertakings in many places of the country. Four-wheeled vehicles are the most ideal for statistics operations under such conditions. However, the current number of 4-wheel drive vehicles is not adequate to cover the many statistics undertakings especially for on-going surveys such as CPI and Business surveys resulting in costly hiring. However, concentration of people in urban areas provides opportunities to target more people without traveling long distances.

International factors
The official launch of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015 by the United Nations created new opportunities to further develop statistical capacity at the country level. More and diverse data are required implying a need for more coordination, diverse skills and diverse sources.

Although Libya has not yet signed and ratified the African Charter on Statistics, the Charter gives a thrust for political support to statistics at the national and continental level and it remains important that Libya should sign and ratify the Charter.

BSC has recently managed to join the Medstat IV Programme funded by the European Union and technically supported by EUROSTAT which also creates opportunities for further statistical capacity building. Through this arrangement, working groups have been set up for a number of fields: business statistics, energy, the labour market, migration, international trade and transport, as well as for cross-cutting issues such as training and quality in statistics. It is expected
that there will be annual meetings and workshops to promote the adoption of the European statistics code of practice, quality standards and a quality framework.

**Internal environment**

Apart from external factors listed above that have an impact on statistical development in the country, there are also other internal factors that have an impact on statistical development in the country which include leadership, NSS coordination, stakeholder analysis, statistical advocacy and capacity and data quality.

**Leadership**

The management and leadership of the BSC are highly committed to introducing reforms aimed at modernizing the national statistical system. In order to seize this opportunity, the BSC is striving to advocate to their reporting authority, i.e. the Ministry of Planning, the urgent need for developing a medium- and long-term vision that would be ultimately incorporated in a NSDS. Furthermore, the leadership managing the technical aspect as along with the leadership managing the governance of the BSC has adequate knowledge and experience to further develop statistics in the country.

**NSS coordination**

Coordination is critical for the success of a national statistical system. Like many countries, the Bureau of Statistics and Census is the coordinator of the national statistical system as stipulated in the statistics law of 16/1963. However, the BSC is currently having inadequate capacity to coordinate the NSS. This is also compelled by the fact that most government ministries and departments do not have well established units responsible for statistical operations. Coordination of the national statistical system is further weakened by the limited resources made available to statistics.

**Stakeholder analysis**

Amid political uncertainty, it is a big challenge for the BSC to have a better understanding of statistical needs of the stakeholders across the NSS. Through discussion with workshop attendees, it was reported that the country had a low statistics culture which indicated that most policies were not primarily based on evidence from statistics.

**Statistical advocacy**

The assessment revealed that statistics advocacy has been weak and inadequate. Most ministries are not aware of statistics produced by others. Although response rates for most household surveys are still considered very high
above 90 percent, there is a threat that this trend might decline following limited appreciation of the role of statistics. Low statistics advocacy especially amongst government and policy makers threatens the possibility of receiving adequate funding.

Statistical capacity
It has been noted from the assessment that the NSS lacks adequate numbers of qualified personnel. Among the total 201 staff, half a dozen are statistically trained and less than 30 are performing operational activities. There is also limited mapping of staff skills to tasks resulting in low productivity.

The working environment is not conducive to productivity as the BSC is operating in a building that is not adequate for the current staff capacity. ICT infrastructure remains inadequate and there are no adequate and sustainable financial resources. Regional offices are only being used for data collection.

Data quality
Although international standards are generally adhered to, the country has recently experienced breaks and inconsistencies in a number of time series data. There is limited geographic coverage and declined response rate especially from the economic enterprises. This has created a threat to the national statistical system including creating parallel multiple data sources whose quality is also questionable. For instance, data reported for a number of health indicators at global level relating to Libya have not been provided by the Health Information System or the BSC.
**SWOT analysis**

Analysis of the current situation in Libya provides a list of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT analysis) likely to affect the performance of the statistical system in the country to focus and build on the strengths, minimize the threats, and take advantage of the existing opportunities.

**Figure 1: SWOT Analysis**

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<td><strong>Strengths</strong></td>
<td><strong>Weaknesses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Existence of a legal framework that establishes the BSC to produce official statistics in the country</td>
<td>• Lack of statistical coordination across sectors</td>
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<td>• Dedicated leadership and management at the Bureau of Statistics and Census</td>
<td>• Low visibility of the Bureau of Statistics and Census at the national level</td>
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<td>• Good relations with international agencies specialized in statistics</td>
<td>• Outdated legal framework</td>
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<td>• Existence of some expertise and competences in statistics within the BSC</td>
<td>• Inadequate financial resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Availability of some ITC infrastructure at the BSC as well as a few other ministries</td>
<td>• Insufficient infrastructure in terms of premises and ICT equipment at the Bureau level</td>
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<th>Internal origin (attributes of the system)</th>
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<td><strong>Opportunities</strong></td>
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<td>• Strong will by BSC leadership and management to bring institutional and organisational changes</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Launch of the Sustainable Development Goals by the United Nations which will require more and accurate statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Increased availability of technological innovations</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Availability of partners in the national statistical system</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Room to re-build a new, modern and effective national statistical system learning from others’ experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Existence of partners willing to support statistical development in the country</td>
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Chapter 3: National Statistical System (NSS)

Concept of official statistics
Official Statistics are the statistics produced by the National Statistical Office (NSO) according to the provisions of the statistical law and the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, which are produced and published by the national statistical office, or by the rest of the components of the National Statistical System, in coordination with the NSO.

“The national statistical system (NSS) is the ensemble of statistical organizations and units within a country that jointly collect process and disseminate official statistics on behalf of the national government” (OECD).

“The national statistical system (NSS) typically consists of the national statistical office (NSO) and any other institutions and administrations that produce official statistics”. (Eurostat)

The term national statistical system (NSS) refers to a country’s producers of official statistics, generally a national statistical Office (NSO) and other institutions and administrations producing official statistics. The structure of a NSS is generally built on national administrative or legal traditions.

National statistical system components
In recent years, the national statistical system includes those who produce statistics, those who provide statistics, and those who use statistics. The interplay amongst all these players forms the national statistical system.

There are many producers of statistical data at the national level, who produce data on the basis of legal or administrative traditions. The producers of data within the national statistical system are mainly line ministries and other government agencies which produce statistics according to the law in force or administrative objectives.

Another component of the national statistical system is that of providers of statistics. Without them there is no data. These include individuals, households, and institutions such as those involved in enterprises, or those engaged in not-for-profit activities. Providers of statistics are critical as their cooperation determine the quality of data.

Statistics are produced in order to be utilized. Without users there is no need to produce data. Users are so diverse with different requirements. Although the
government is, in most cases, the main user of national data, other users such as researchers, the media, development partners, not-for-profit organisations are continually using statistics. As such, users form another important component of the national statistical system.

The experience of building the NSS in many countries tells that the journey was not easy. Some problems have arisen which deal with the culture of data ownership, compliance with standards, definitions and classifications.

The main objective of producing data in the components of the national statistical system other than the NSO is for their own use or documentation according to the law or administrative norms, it is primary data for the ministries and secondary data when it is transferred to be used by the NSO.

The BSC feels the necessity to build the national statistical system as a requisite to produce overall statistics for the country. There are seventeen data centres in the Libyan ministries which were established in the late nineties. These centres were established to take the responsibility of data production in the ministries; some of these centres are still active and work according to the mandate. Other data centres were merged in other directorates within the structure of the ministries.

Statistics are not produced for the sake of production, but to meet the expanding demands for data at the local, national and international levels. The ministries are producers and users of statistics, besides the users across the society at large.

The emerged efforts of the BSC and other components of the NSS become a national need to fulfil the mandate, to meet the needs of data users and to enhance the decision making process at the national level. In time the country is witnessing socioeconomic changes, which emphasises the necessity for statistics.

**Coordination mechanism**

The national statistical system cannot be completed unless all components (producers, providers and users of data) work together to merge the process according to rules, standards and regulations. In the international experience, the NSO takes the responsibility of leading the efforts of building the NSS, as it is the official institution which is mandated to produce official statistics. For that, planning should include the partners of the NSS.
The objectives of developing the National Statistical System are:

- Establishing sustainable mechanisms to provide reliable, timely and accurate data in compliance with international standards
- Strengthening the capacity of the relevant statistical agencies through training and adoption of new information and communication technology
- Carrying out legal and institutional reforms that promote statistical data development
- Promoting statistical information sharing among data producers and users to strengthen the quality of decision making
- Developing data access and dissemination strategy compliance with relevant legislation and international good practices
Chapter 4: Institutional, Legislative Framework, and Organisational Set-up

Institutional set-up
The BSC was established in 1953 and operates under the provision of the statistical law issued in 1953, which was revised in 1963 under number 16/1963. The BSC was under the minister of national economy, according to the article no.1 of the law 16/1963. In 2012, the Cabinet of the Transitional Libyan Government (TLG) issued the decision No. (138) for the year 2012, splitting the Bureau from the General Information Authority (GIA), and joining the ministry of planning, after two decades of jointly operating with GIA.

The BSC is a central statistical office. The headquarters is located in Tripoli. A total of 188 employees handle their work at the main premises in Tripoli, 9 employees in the Benghazi office, and 4 employees in the Sabha office. The two regional offices manage and process data collection and provide logistics to surveys in the field. The production of statistics and dissemination is completed at the central office.

The BSC is the governmental agency which is mandated to produce official statistics for the country, to enhance the decision making process at the level of the government and the society at large. It is stated in article 1.1” Conducting research and studies on statistical issues needed by state agencies and ministries in setting plans, tracking and financing the plans and to indicate and measure the social and economic development.” And the law sets the need of the national statistical system (NSS), article 1.1-1.7.

The assessment noted that the drafted statistical law complies with a number of United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.

The table below details areas where the Law is compliant with the UN FPOS and where it is not:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principle</th>
<th>Focus</th>
<th>Compliant/ not compliant</th>
<th>Reference article</th>
<th>Actual observations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Principle 1:** Official statistics provide an indispensable element in the information system of a democratic society, serving the Government, the economy and the public with data about the economic, demographic, social and environmental situation. To this end, official statistics that meet the test of practical utility are to be compiled and made available on an impartial basis by official statistical agencies to honour citizens’ entitlement to public information. | Official statistics, Relevance, Impartiality, Dissemination Recruitment procedures, Data users, | Partially Compliant | **Article 5/8:** Dissemination of statistical awareness among citizens to ensure ease and accuracy of data collected from individuals, families and public and private entities. | - The concept of official statistics is not defined in the Law.  
- It is not defined on what basis to recruit the director general of the Bureau, and to determine his/her responsibilities.  
- The coordination with data users is not visible.  
- The statistical programme is inadequate to meet the country needs in terms of data and timeliness. |
| **Principle 2:** To retain trust in official statistics, the statistical agencies need to decide according to strictly professional considerations, | Professional independence – methods and procedures | Compliant | **Article (6):** The Bureau has technical and professional independence in the | - Trust of the statistical system needs to be created and maintained.  
- The Board of management may |
including scientific principles and professional ethics, on the methods and procedures for the collection, processing, storage and presentation of statistical data.

### Principle 3: To facilitate a correct interpretation of the data, the statistical agencies are to present information according to scientific standards on the sources, methods and procedures of the statistics.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Transparency</th>
<th>Compliance</th>
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<tr>
<td>Compliant</td>
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**Performance of its functions in accordance with the generally accepted methods and controls, and ways in this area, and nobody may intervene in statistical operations carried out by the Bureau in any Phase of it.**

**Article 5/6:** Publishing statistical results of censuses and surveys and reports, in accordance with national and international standards, classifications and make available for use by all members of society and institutions

- The methods of data production in the ministries need to be revised according to the international standards.
- Mata data needs to be adopted and published for all surveys.

### Principle 4: The statistical agencies are entitled to comment on erroneous interpretation and misuse of

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Right to react to erroneous interpretation</th>
<th>Not compliant</th>
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- There is no procedure or policy how to deal with the erroneous interpretation or misuse of statistics.
### Principle 5: Data for statistical purposes may be drawn from all types of sources, be they statistical surveys or administrative records. Statistical agencies are to choose the source with regard to quality, timeliness, costs and the burden on respondents.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data sources</th>
<th>Quality Standards</th>
<th>Compliant</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Article 5/3: Cooperation with the state institutions for the collection of statistical data, including data derived from the activities of those institutions, tabulation and dissemination.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Article 5/4: Collected administrative data from administrative records and all relevant ministries and institutions as it is arranged by the Bureau, to enable researchers and those interested to compare it with data from internal and abroad.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Article 14/1: Confidentiality and transparency</td>
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<tr>
<td>The issue should be inserted in the law.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Limited use of administrative records for official statistics.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Standards need to be adopted by all data producers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>No internal guidelines, handbooks and recommendations to evaluate quality of statistical processes including measuring sampling and non-sampling errors, and compliance with international standards. The BSC has no mechanism to check the quality of statistics produced by other statistical agencies within the NSS.</td>
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### Principle 6: Individual data collected by statistical agencies for statistical compilation, whether they refer to natural or legal persons, are

<table>
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<th>Confidentiality</th>
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<tr>
<td>Article 14/1: Confidentiality and transparency</td>
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<tr>
<td>While the BSC has tried to ensure confidentiality, lack of capacity particularly in relation to data anonymization</td>
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to be strictly confidential and used exclusively for statistical purposes.

Individual data relating to any census or enumeration be strictly confidential, and no individual or public body may access or inform about it, or to be used for non-statistical purposes or published what is related to it, only under the written authority of the respondent that its data concerning the individual, may not use any statistical basis to link the tax or to arrange any other financial burden not to take evidence on the basis of a crime or any other legal action, it may be used as evidence against those who gave incorrect information.

**Principle 7:** The laws, regulations and measures under which the statistical

**Laws and regulations made**

**Compliant**

**Article 17/4:** The Bureau is abided to define data

- The law is not publicized at the national level. The partners of the National
systems operate are to be made public.

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<tr>
<th>Principle 8: Coordination among statistical agencies within countries is essential to achieve consistency and efficiency in the statistical system.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coordination</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Article 5/7: Coordination between institutions producing data to avoid duplication of presented data on a single phenomenon, to ensure that there is no variation in the outputs.</th>
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<tr>
<td>BSC to develop mechanisms to ensure government support to the NSS.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Article 17/1: All ministries, public and private bodies should coordinate with the Bureau, before doing statistical operations and inform the Bureau</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSC to coordinate with other partners to produce the National charter of official Statistics to specify the responsibilities of all parties.</td>
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</table>

Statistical System “NSS” are not aware of the law details,
| Principle 9: | Principle 10: | Article 5/5: Preparation and updating of standards and classifications and presentation of data tabulation and making it possible to compare the results with their counterparts in other countries. | Article 5/6: Publishing statistical results of censuses and surveys and reports, in accordance with national and international standards, classifications and | | International concepts, classifications and methods promote the consistency and efficiency of statistical systems at all official levels. | Bilateral and multilateral cooperation in statistics contributes to the improvement of systems of official statistics in all countries. | National, Regional and international cooperation | | International standards | Regional code of practices | Compliant | Compliant | | • Lack of internal procedures or guidelines to hasten the statistical production process. So far, instructions for the technical committees which are responsible for survey administration are available. | • A system of national classifications is not available. Statistical classifications are available at directorate level, but there is no central unit responsible of developing system of statistical classifications. |
make available for use by all members of society and institutions.
There are also some observations on the overall recommended law of concern:

1. The new revised law should be reviewed before it passes the procedures of endorsement.
2. The law does not specify the scope of statistics to be produced by the BSC and by other ministries; the BSC should produce the national accounts.
3. The law does not specify the responsibilities of the chief statistician which is important to set the boundaries of his/her authority.
4. The law does not come to the responsibilities of the statistical units of the ministries, as they are partners in the national statistical system.
5. The National Committee of Statistics “NCS” mandate should not include the revision of produced statistics, to maintain the professional independence of the Bureau.
6. The list of expressions in Article (1) refers to the Board of Management of the Bureau, and there is nothing about the board formation in the law, there is no need to keep the board in the list of expressions, as the National Committee of Statistics replaces the board according to law.

**Organisational structure**

The Bureau of Statistics and Census (BSC) belongs administratively to the Ministry of Planning, as a directorate in the ministry, with independence at the administrative, financial and technical level, and it has its own independent annual budget.

The Bureau is supervised by a Board of Management, formed of the chairman and four members, the chairman and two members are nominated by the minister of planning while the other two members are the director of statistics and research directorate at the Central Bank and the director of national accounts directorate at the Ministry of Planning. The Bureau is managed directly by an executive director who reports to the chairman of the board of management.

The current organisational structure comprises seven directorates, namely:

- The Board of Management office
  - Financial and Monitoring Division
  - Legal Affairs Office
- The Office of the Executive Director
- **Demographic and Social Statistics Directorate**
  - Demographic Statistics Division
  - Social Statistics Division
• Economic Statistics Directorate
  - Prices Statistics Division, CPI
  - Industry and Agriculture Statistics Division
  - Trade Statistics Division
  - Services Statistics Division

• Vital Statistics and Records Directorate
  - Vital Statistics Division
  - Administrative Statistics Division

• Development and Quality Control Directorate
  - Methodology and Development Division
  - Data Quality Division

• Administration and Finance Directorate
  - Administrative and Records Management Division
  - Financial Affairs Division
  - Personnel Affairs Division
  - Public Relations and Services Division
  - Maintenance Division
  - Information Division

• Human Resources Directorate
  - Training Division

• Information Technology Systems Directorate
  - Technical Support and Network Division
  - Systems Analysis and Programming Division

The figure below shows the current organisational structure of the BSC:
The ministers’ council decision No.90/2013 has been issued to amend the organisational structure; the new structure includes nine directorates, namely:

1. Demographic and Social Statistics Directorate
2. Economic Statistics Directorate
3. Vital Statistics and Records Directorate
4. Development and Quality Control Directorate
5. Human Resources Directorate
6. Administrative and Financial Affairs Directorate
8. Internal Audit Directorate
9. Legal Affairs Directorate

The decision states the functions of each directorate, but the decision does not go into the details of each directorate, and the divisions of each directorate are not included in the decision, the figure below.
The new structure is not implemented yet, after three years of issuance. The new structure needs to be revised before it is implemented as there are central tasks at the Bureau that are not included in the organisational structure. These tasks include statistical data collection, production of statistical maps, samples and sample frames, coordination of the statistical system, and publishing statistical data. As in the previous structure, these functions seem to be embedded in the statistical directorate. The repetition of the central functions distributed in the directorates needs more resources and training, which raises the total cost of data production.

Some of the basic divisions are not added to the structure. In reference to the current implemented structure, the structure does not include basic divisions in the statistical directorates, which will be specified in the recommendations below.

The organisation structure is an administrative tool that has to do with organizing the total functions of the firm, without neglecting any function and without overlapping any function. It also sets the chain of command, that allows each employee to be aware to whom he or she reports. The structure may be modified to serve the new business lines, or to serve the implantation of the strategic plan, whenever necessary.

The structure seems to tackle the issues of the current situation at the BSC, while it is expected to serve the comprehensive statistical programme, including the divisions that should be part of the new structure.
The structure with nine directorates seems to be flat; the executive director will directly supervise nine heads of the directorates, in time, the idea of having two main streams of work according to the business lines, with a deputy assistant to enforce the specialization in statistics and administration.

There are units that take the responsibility of two different subjects, such as the combining of industry statistics and agriculture statistics in one division and services statistics and public relations in another division. The directorate of vital statistics holds the responsibility of vital statistics and administrative records, in time, vital statistics is part of divisions in the demographic and social statistics; the administrative records include statistics for the economic directorate, demographic directorate and other subject matter statistics.

The directorate of human resources includes just the training division. It seems that it is intended to establish the statistical training centre, in time. HR directorate tasks exceed the issue of training but include human resource planning, human resource development and human resource management, which are part of the personnel division.

There is no reference to national accounts currently produced by the ministry of planning. This proposal to have national accounts produced by the BSC might be one of the subjects tackled with the ministry of planning.

1. The new structure does not adequately cover the planning division. The BSC is currently putting in place mechanisms to set a strategic plan, to share the plan with partners in the NSS, through the phases of design, implementation and monitoring the progress of implementation. It might be part of Development and Quality Control Directorate

There are central functions that collaborate with all statistical directorates, such as data collection, sample design, data processing, and administration. In the current structure, each directorate takes the responsibility of sample design, data collection and dissemination. The establishment of central units will help in building the capacity in one unit to serve all statistical sectors, leading to cost reduction, strong capacity building and enforced specialty across all units.

**Premises**
The BSC’s premises are located along two floors in a building of seven floors, with a total area of 1600 meters square. The space is insufficient to meet the Bureau’s
requirements including storage. The Bureau received government funding to purchase a new building. However, due to other challenges including the political situation, the building has not been purchased yet. Unfortunately, due to depreciation of the local currency (Dinar) over the period, the allocated funds are no longer adequate to purchase a suitable office building hence requiring more resources.

**Human resources**

The total number of staff in the Bureau is 201 employees of which 119 (or 59%) are male and 82 (or 41%) are female, the median age is 41. Out of the total employees, 188 employees work at the headquarters in Tripoli, 9 at Benghazi office and 4 at Sabha office.

Of the total 201 employees, 91 have a first degree or above (45%). 76 (or 38%) have a diploma, while 39 (or 17%) have secondary school qualification or lower.

The job titles are misleading as the majority of the staff is classified to hold administrative posts, and to the extent 29 are classified to work in statistical posts, while 172 are working in administrative and supportive posts. However, this is not the case on the ground.

From the assessment, it was noted that there is quite a low turnover in terms of statistical personnel. However, the challenge that was noted is absenteeism. In most cases members of staff are absent from office probably due to lack of motivation to work and no incentives at work.

The assessment also noted that there is no human resources training programme that covers the entire national statistical system. It was also noted from the assessment that no comprehensive human resource assessment has been undertaken to identify the gaps that could eventually feed into the training program.

The assessment also noted that there are little or no collaboration with higher level education institutions such as universities to review statistics curricula. As such, there is no guarantee that the graduates from such institutions would perfectly contribute to statistical development in the country.

The following diagrams shed some light on the structure of the staff; the data might be revised as the given classifications do not reflect the exact situation.
From figure 1, it is noted that the current workforce at the BSC is young. Most of the employees are in their early forties or less. There is an opportunity to invest more in this workforce considering staff is likely to continue working within the statistical system in the country.

**Figure 5: The distribution of staff by gender**

The assessment noted that there is quite a high representation of female employees in the statistics workforce in Libya compared to other countries in the region. The assessment also noted that due to cultural requirements, women interviewers are required in some interviews.
Chapter 5: Statistical Processes

This chapter presents the findings in relation to the status, processes, programmes and methods of statistical activities currently employed within the statistical system in Libya. (See summary table in Annex 05)

ECONOMIC STATISTICS

Business registers
The BSC has run annually enterprise-based surveys from 1992 to 2013, and published industrial and services statistics regularly. However, the assessment noted that no Business Registers are currently maintained in the country.

Enterprises are categorized by their size in terms of number of employees. Large enterprises of more than 25 employees were surveyed exhaustively. However, small and medium size enterprises of less than 25 employees were sampled. This could cause problems as some enterprises with fewer than 25 employees that also have high turnover could be omitted under this arrangement.

External and internal trade
External Trade statistics were compiled from administrative records maintained by Customs Authorities. Data were published annually from 1966 to 2014. Internal Trade statistics were compiled from administrative records maintained by the Ministry of Commerce and data were published from 2003 to 2013. However, the assessment team found that no data have been shared between the BSC and Customs authority since 2011.

National accounts
National accounts in Libya are produced by the Ministry of Planning. The BSC is responsible for collecting and producing economic statistics for National Accounts, including Economic Surveys and Household Income/Expenditure Surveys. Fifty-one staff members are currently working for the production of National Accounts. The last National Accounts were established in 2006. Data on activities in the informal sector are not included due to local conditions. Currently, the country is still using the 1993 System of National Accounts. The assessment noted that no quarterly GDP estimates are produced in the country. Furthermore, it was noted that there are no GDP estimates produced at the subnational level. It was also noted that there is no clear separation of roles between the Ministry of Planning and the BSC for the compilation of supply and use tables (SUTs), input-output tables (I-O tables) and social accounting matrices (SAM). The assessment noted that no efforts have been undertaken to reconcile
the production and expenditure approach in estimating national accounts. The assessment did not find evidence of a permanent working group to discuss issues related to coordination, flow of primary data and detailed user needs of national accounts statistics.

**Informal sector**

The assessment team noted that, at the national level, the definition of the informal sector has yet to be agreed upon. The informal sector contributes significantly to National Accounts, even though there are no current estimates of the level and scope of non-structured activities in the country. An undercount or absence of statistics in the informal sector affects estimates of national accounts, which could mislead economic productivity. As a result of the same challenge above, no efforts have been undertaken to develop digital maps for improving the identification and sampling of enterprises in the informal sector. It was also noted from the assessment that no efforts have been undertaken to include informal external trade in external/foreign trade statistics.

**Balance of Payment**

The Central Bank of Libya is responsible for producing the Balance of Payment. During the assessment, it was noted that the Balance of Payment is produced using international trade statistics. Main financial aggregates are provided by the Central Bank of Libya, but detailed output/input and value added data are based on estimates. There is no coordination with national partners such as Chambers of Commerce or Industry. Monetary statistics are published regularly and timely. External Trade and Non-Resident Transfers are lacking. A positive coordination relationship exists between the BSC and CBL. The latter is a member of BSC’s Board. CBL has initiated the establishment of a One-Stop-Shop for access to data. However the project was interrupted in 2011 due to local factors.

**Consumer Price Index (CPI).**

The assessment noted that the scope, coverage and calculation of the CPI are in line with international recommendations. The current base year of the consumer price index is 2003 (2003=100). Data collection and dissemination was suspended between 2012 and 2014; but resumed since 2014. There are no administered prices in the country except for Fuel products.

The CPI is produced every quarter for a given year and compared to the same quarter the previous year. Consumption is divided into 8 main items with respective weights: Food items (36.6%), Clothes, Garments and Footwear (7.3%),
Housing and related items (23.3%), House furniture (5.9%), Health care (4.0%), Transportation and communication (11.2%), Education, Culture, and Entertainment (6.4%), and Diverse goods and services (5.3%). The CPI for November 2015 was 193.2. It is important to note, however, that different organisations also produce their own CPI estimates. The Central Bank of Libya and the World Bank both consider that the CPI produced by the BSC is underestimated. Production of the CPI on a quarterly basis is not adequate to reflect the changes in prices. There is no use of hand-held computers for the collection of CPI which may result in delays in capturing and processing data. It was also noted that no effort has been made to cross check the final consumption expenditures of households used for calculating the weights for the CPI and those that are used in the final consumption expenditures as estimated in national accounts. In terms of the release of CPI data, it was noted that there is no fixed date(s) set by the BSC.

**Producer Price Index (PPI)**
The latest PPI was published in 2010. It covered the manufacturing industries. The prices were collected in a sample of 82 production points (enterprise, or factory) spread over the entire country. The 238 products composing the index were selected amongst the most commonly sold on the national market. The index is compounded following the Laspeyres formula. However, the absence of an updated business register limits the confidence of the sample.

Weights used for the compilation of the PPI are based on the output value obtained from industrial production statistics. The industrial production statistics may, however, be affected by the business register which is not adequately updated. Quarterly and cumulative annual price indices are calculated using the modified Laspeyres’ formula. The present weight reference period is 2010. The valuation of products is done at basic prices which exclude taxes on products but include subsides.

**Tourism statistics**
The latest tourism statistics published by the BSC in its statistical yearbook relate to the period from 2000 to 2010. Main indicators include the number of tourists, overnight visitors, cruise passengers, average length of stay, average spending per day, number of hotels beds and rooms, distribution by region of origin and by labour force engaged in tourism, tourist guides, and total estimated income of the sector, in Euros. Other statistics report on the distribution of hotels by
category and region, touristic area and land area by region, accommodation by category and number of rooms.

The assessment team noted that there is limited coordination between the BSC and the Ministry responsible for Tourism. It was also noted that current tourism statistics are produced using the 1993 Recommendations on Tourism Statistics, which are outdated as the latest Recommendations for Tourism Statistics were issued in 2008.

**Agriculture statistics**

The assessment team noted that each technical department within the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) includes a statistics division, which collects statistical information related to that department’s scope. However, the divisions do not coordinate their activities and outputs.

The assessment team also noted that the production process of agriculture statistics needs to refer to the standard definition of households as defined by the BSC for its household surveys. Similarly, farming family needs to be clearly defined in agricultural surveys.

For this purpose, technical coordination with the BSC is pivotal for the production of reliable statistics.

**Information Technology and Communication (ITC)**

The BSC conducted a household-based sample survey on the use of ITC in 2013. The sample was randomly selected from the 2012 Population headcount in multiple-stage clustered samples at the national, provincial (21), urban and rural levels. The sample included 8,583 households spread over the entire country. Data collection was carried out between 15 November and 20 December 2013. One of the main survey results showed that about 20% of the Libyan population utilized personal computers during the previous 12 months, and 95% of the population aged 5 years and above, accessed the Internet in one way or another.

This was an ad hoc survey implying that gaps in time series data on ICT still exist. There is no systematic consultation to identify data requirements of users of ICT statistics.
SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

Population statistics
Libya has been conducting population, building and housing censuses since 1954. The most recent exhaustive census was conducted in 2006 when data on socioeconomic characteristics of Libyan and non-Libyan residents were collected. However, the assessment team noted that no estimates on Libyan citizens living abroad were made. Furthermore, there was no post-enumeration survey (PES) conducted for the 2006 census, which would have provided an assessment of coverage and quality of data. Data currently available cover the characteristics of the population aged 15 years and above.

As a means of updating the census data, a headcount of the population was also carried out in 2012 which covered the whole country and thus provided geographic distribution of the Libyan and non-Libyan residents.

In addition, population projections are established annually by the BSC based on the 2006 Census results. The latest figures relate to year 2015. The assessment team noted that population projections are used to allocate government resources to local government. The risk of allocating local resources according to the size of the population may present the risk of over-estimating the later in order to increase the allocated share of the overall budget. There is no comprehensive assessment of population projection data based on the 2006 census against data from vital registration records conducted by the Ministry of Interior.

Education statistics
There are two main sources of education statistics in Libya. On one hand, education data are derived from Household Income Expenditure Surveys (HIES). The last HIES was conducted in 2012. The other source of education statistics comes from administrative records maintained by the Ministry of Education (MOE), which collects data at the school level. The latest education statistics, based on administrative records, were published in 2011.

However, it was noted that detailed school-based data are not aggregated along administrative levels by the Ministry of Education. The assessment team also noted that data on higher education institutions are not comprehensive. Also, data on private universities are currently lacking. The current Education Management Information System (EMIS) methodology maintained by MOE is outdated, and therefore quality of data might be questionable. Data users, and
particularly UNESCO, submit their requests for education data to the BSC who in turn asks the MOE to compile data and provide aggregates.

Education data are currently provided by the Ministry of Education to the BSC on hardcopy. No electronic data sharing exists between the Ministry of Education and the BSC. In addition, there is no formal technical working group on education statistics that would meet regularly to review data sharing, methodologies, and dissemination.

Health statistics
The Centre for Information and Documentation at the Ministry of Health (MOH) is responsible for collecting and disseminating health statistics. The MOH maintains an internal Health Management Information System (HMIS) for gathering and processing data from the health units based on records that refer to WHO ICD-10 standards. On the other hand, deaths are recorded by the Vital Registration System but do not comply with WHO standards. Causes of death are ill-defined, and thus administrative information on mortality is not reliable.

The MOH recently carried-out a number of household-based investigations with WHO methodological support, such as the STEPwise survey\(^1\). In 2013, the MOH conducted a Rapid Assessment of health services nationwide. The results of these surveys are usually used by the MOH for internal decision-making purposes. The MOH provides users limited access to statistical results; data are shared with users only upon specific request.

In addition, The Libyan Bureau of Statistics and Census conducted the Libyan National Family Health Survey (PAPFAM) in 2014, in cooperation and coordination with the National Centre for Disease Control representing the Ministry of Health, the Pan-Arab Program for Family Health (PAPFAM) and the League of Arab States. The World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Fund for Population (UNFPA), and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) in Libya also supported the survey.

Despite existing difficulties to collect data in the field, the survey was successfully conducted by the BSC between April and June 2014. The survey used a randomly selected sample of 20,899 households with 99,060 individuals, distributed in urban (88.3%) and rural areas (11.7%). The response rate was 88.9% for the sampled households (88.4% in urban areas, and 91.5% in rural areas), and

\(^1\) STEPwise survey is a population-based survey designed to produce a comparable data on prevalence of chronic disease risk factors and selected chronic non-communicable diseases.
94.6% for sampled women (94.1% in urban areas, and 96.9% in rural areas). The Arabic version of the preliminary report was released in 2015, and the English version in March 2016.

**Vital Registration**
Governed by the law #36 on Civil Status promulgated in year 1968, vital records are considered as the second major source for demographic statistics in Libya, after the population census. Registration of vital events (birth, death, marriage, divorce) is under the responsibility of the Ministry of Interior in close cooperation with the Ministry of Health. Sharing vital statistics with other ministerial partners in electronic format is currently restricted.

The latest figures published in 2010 by the General Authority for Information cover the distribution of vital events as follows:

- Population estimates at mid-year from 1991 to 2010
- Number of births by sex, weight, age group and occupational major groups of the parents (mother and father), and place of birth and usual residence of the mother, nationality, and district
- Number of deaths by sex, age, occupational major groups, place of death and usual residence, nationality, cause of death, and district
- Number of Libyan marriages by month from 1991 to 2010, and by district in 2010
- Number of Libyan divorces by month from 1991 to 2010, and by district in 2010

Although the current legislation provides strong financial incentives that encourage the population to declare vital events, which should lead to universal coverage by the Vital Registration system, an independent assessment of the actual rate of coverage for each type of event and by geographic district is needed. Every family should hold a booklet where all vital events are recorded, and these booklets could become mandatory to access social services, including education, health, vaccination, pension, social protection, burial and funeral. According to the BSC, registration of vital events in the country is ongoing universally since 2011, despite the ongoing turmoil in the field.

**Household income/expenditure statistics**
The last household income and expenditure survey was carried out at the end 2008 with support from the World Bank. The results were published in 2010. The purpose of the survey was to estimate household consumption patterns and new weights to be used in the consumer price indices. However, the survey
results have not yet been used for up-dating consumption weights. This means that the current weights for consumer price index are outdated despite availability of such data. New methodology for data collection was used for the survey: one-month observation at the household level plus recall by respondent of expenditure/consumption for the last 3 months. Compensation was granted to respondent households.

No efforts were undertaken to update the consumer basket weights or to track poverty statistics on households since the 2008 survey. The assessment team also noted that there have been no efforts to assess price changes that could be calculated based on inter-survey periods. Limited use of technology in the collection of data may have resulted in the delayed release of results.

**Food security statistics**

In collaboration with the United Nations World Food Program (WFP), the BSC conducted a simulation study on food security using the results of the 2008 National Socio-Economic Survey (NSES) to measure the policy impact on beneficiaries. A report on the Food Security and Food Subsidy Reform in Libya, incorporating the results of the NSES, was published by the BSC. The objective of the report was to assess the potential impact of lifting food consumption subsidies on household food security and to explore options to mitigate the adverse effects of subsidy reform through cash transfers.

The NSES sample followed a sample design, which ensured demographic and geographic representation. The two stage stratified cluster sample was drawn from the master sample based upon the 2006 population census. It included 20 417 families. The data was effectively collected from 19 660 households (17 497 in urban and 2 163 in rural locations), resulting in a response rate estimated at 96.3%.

The survey report provided a baseline picture of household food security conditions related to demographic and socio-economic household characteristics at the national and sub-national levels. The findings stem mainly from indicators of dietary energy consumption and expenditure on food, compliant with FAO standards. The report offers a description of the prevalence of food deprivation at the national and subnational levels, as reported to the household head. It also provides estimates of the impact of food policies on the dietary energy consumption and inequality in food consumption among the Libyan population.
The assessment team noted that all figures are reported to the head of household (age groups, gender, education level, economic activity, occupational group, income quintiles). However, the survey data carry the potential to be further analysed at the household member level (children, elderly, women, disabled) in order to assess the dietary pattern for relevant segments of the population.

Data on food security and consumption should be updated in order to measure the impact of the ongoing turmoil in the country on health and food consumption patterns.

**Labour/Work statistics**

An Employment and Unemployment Survey (LFS) is carried out every 6 months. The previous surveys were conducted in 2007, 2009, 2010, and 2012. Due to uncertainties concerning the quality of the collected data, the results of the three previous surveys (2007, 2009 and 2010) are not accessible to users.

The results of the last survey round on Employment and Unemployment carried out in 2012 were published in 2013 and analysed with assistance from the World Bank. Although the survey is compliant with ILO standards (a person working at least one hour a week is considered employed), the recommendations of the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) held in Geneva in October 2013, are not incorporated in the survey methodology.

The 2012 Employment and Unemployment survey covered a nationally representative random cluster sample of 9,180 households, distributed over 459 Enumeration Areas. The sample was drawn from the latest Population Headcount carried out by the BSC in 2012. The non-response rate is estimated at 7%, and results are established with a margin of error of 2%, which is very close to international standards².

Both the population headcount and the Employment and Unemployment survey were conducted by the BSC in 2012. The fieldwork carried out in difficult conditions may have stretched the capacity of the BSC, and hence affected the quality of the data produced.

Data on salaries in the public sector could be accessed through administrative records maintained by the Ministry of Finance; however, the quality and accuracy of public payroll is highly questionable because of outdated files,

² Summary results of the Employment and Unemployment survey carried out by the LBSC in 2012.
double counts, and lack of a comprehensive database. Data on salaries in the private sector are not available.

**Child labour statistics**
The assessment team noted that no child labour survey has been conducted by any of the country’s NSS institutions.

**Judicial statistics**
Similar to the child labour statistics above, the assessment team found no evidence of justice statistics in the country. Absence of such data indicates that there is no information relating to crime statistics such as homicide, assaults, sexual violence, robbery, kidnapping and theft. Absence of such data also means that the country is lacking quantitative information on criminal justice such as persons brought into formal contact with the police, persons prosecuted, persons convicted, persons detained as well as resources allocated to criminal justice statistics. There is no coordination between the BSC and the Ministry responsible for Justice.

**Social security statistics**
Although it is reported that social security exists in Libya, the assessment team found no evidence of data compiled on social security. Social security statistics typically include the beneficiaries’ access to social benefits and service delivery in relation to their age, disability, poverty status, resources allocated or any other such information that may guide decision-making in relation to social security.

**General comments**
From discussions with participants who attended the workshop in Tunis and those who responded to the questionnaire, it was noted that the use of statistics for decision making remains low in the country. The culture of using statistics remains relatively low. It has also been noted that there are uncertainties in relation to the use of sector statistics by the administration within the sectors for monitoring and decision-making. The BSC sees its role as the production and publishing of sector statistics, notwithstanding users’ needs.

Weak or lack of coordination is prevalent between national partners for the production and the utilization of sector statistics. However, there is a positive coordination between CBL and the BSC. Another example of constructive coordination is the membership of CBL in the BSC authority.
Despite all the above, the assessment team noted that the non-response rate to surveys is low: about 2% for Household surveys, and about 6% for Economic surveys. Surveyors are recruited from local communities.

**Dissemination**

The BSC does not give users access to micro-data, except for front line ministries (Planning, Health, Agriculture, Education, etc.) who introduce requests.

Private users, such as academic researchers, are required to present a formal authorization from front line ministries, government authorities, or academic hierarchy to BSC. In return, users are required to indicate the source of data in their final publication.

The BSC compiles and disseminates secondary statistics in the form of pre-defined tables and indicators from other government ministries, departments and agencies.

The format of dissemination includes hard copy publications, the BSC website, or electronic files (USB key, e-mail). It is currently difficult to determine the number of users accessing the website because the website has no counter. Likewise, no records are kept of people who have requested data from the BSC although users have acknowledged accessing data directly from the BSC.

The consequences of 2011 and subsequent political events have caused an interruption to the collection, compilation and dissemination of a large number of statistics in main sectors.

The separation of the BSC from the General Authority for Information depleted of its operational capabilities (no equipment, no documentation, no archives, no database, no digital mapping, no GIS).

In terms of data analysis, it was noted that the BSC carries out descriptive analysis of statistical abstracts. However, there is limited cooperation with other front line ministries. Staff capacities for thematic analysis are limited and require up grading, strengthening, and training.

In regard to quality control, the assessment team noted that the BSC has previously developed adequate methodologies for ensuring quality statistical output. Questionnaire design and methodologies are/were compliant with international standards; quality checks and validation are performed during data collection. However, there is no data quality assessment framework.
developed to ensure statistics quality throughout the value chain of statistical production.

**Table 2: Recent statistical activities**

**Statistical activities carried out recently**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Year/Period</th>
<th>Scope</th>
<th>Sample size/coverage</th>
<th>Output</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Census of enterprises</td>
<td>Enterprise based economic survey</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Public and Private sectors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer Price Index (CPI) and Producer Price Index (PPI)</td>
<td>Market based survey</td>
<td>Since 2003, with interruption in 2012-2014</td>
<td>Market prices</td>
<td>Index Baseline: 2003 = 100</td>
<td>Last results: BSC: 6.1%, CBI: 12%, World Bank: 15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population, Buildings and Houses Census</td>
<td>Household based sample surveys</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Exhaustive</td>
<td></td>
<td>Global</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demographic Survey</td>
<td>Household based sample surveys</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Sample</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stepwise Health survey</td>
<td>Household based sample surveys</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Sample</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Head Count (listing)</td>
<td>Household based sample surveys</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Exhaustive</td>
<td></td>
<td>About 1 million HH Global Master Sample Frame with 250 000 HH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labour Force survey</td>
<td>Household based sample surveys</td>
<td>2009-2013</td>
<td>Nationally representative sample based on the 2012</td>
<td>Sample of 9180 households</td>
<td>To be published</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey</td>
<td>Type</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income and Expenditure survey</td>
<td>Household based sample surveys</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Sample (partial geographic coverage)</td>
<td>??</td>
<td>To be published</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pan-Arab Family survey (PAPFAM)</td>
<td>Household based sample surveys</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Sample (partial geographic coverage)</td>
<td>??</td>
<td>To be published</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 6: Crosscutting issues

Crosscutting issues are topics which have an impact on all operations in an institution and, therefore, must receive special attention. In this report we will address the following crosscutting issues, based on information received from the BSC and collected information during the two day workshop with BSC staff and main stakeholders which was held in Tunisia during the period 27-28/2/2016:

- Capacity building
- Sampling
- Access to Data
- Meeting user needs
- Geographical Information System (GIS)
- Information technology and communication (ITC)
- Quality Control
- Norms and Methods used

Capacity building

The BSC seeks to develop the capabilities and performance of staff in order to achieve its goals and improve the quality of its statistical products.

Article 1, item 6 of the statistical law 1963, states that: the director general of the Bureau of Statistics and Census is to develop a proposal to establish statistical training centres and the development of curricula and conditions of enrolment.

Also, the proposed statistical law of 2014, Article 13 states that: the minister of planning has the right to delegate the Bureau staff abroad for the purpose of training and participation in scientific conferences and symposia in the range of funds allocated for this purpose.

The BSC may establish a statistical training centre and set the plans, methods and conditions of enrolment and preparation of plans and curricula needed for statistical work, as stated in the proposed statistical law 2014, Article 17, item 9.

A number of challenges were noted in relation to capacity building as listed below:

Training courses for BSC staff and NSS components, the promotion of statistical knowledge and awareness, and on the job training on various statistical subjects are not implemented to satisfy the staff and users’ needs.
The total staff of the Bureau consists of 201 employees: 29 are classified to work in statistical posts, while 172 are working in administrative and supportive posts. The attended training courses by BSC staff at the end of 2015 are as follows:

- 54 staff members have attended only one training course
- 51 staff members have attended only two training courses
- 16 staff members have attended only three training courses
- 8 staff members have attended four training courses
- One staff has attended five training courses
- Two staff members have attended 8 training courses
- While 69 staff members have not attended any training courses

There is considerable misallocation of personnel in relation to their skills and/or qualification.

There are few training courses organized for users on the analysis and interpretation of statistical information in cooperation with international statistical organisations as those courses are mostly conducted abroad.

The human resources development plan - career development and training opportunities - for staff in the NSS components has yet to be developed.

In general BSC staff is willing to develop their capacities by attending internal and external training courses as well as participate in international conferences and workshops. While small, the human resources department is trying to develop BSC staff capabilities.

Assessment:

- Training courses by NSS components are not sufficient for staff to professionally perform their tasks in order to improve the statistical processes and data quality and promote the statistical products.
- BSC has no adequate capacity to undertake statistical sampling, statistical weighting and statistical analysis.
- BSC has limited opportunities for NSS components to develop their capacities due to budget limitations. BSC only received 50% of the budget in 2013, while the budget for 2014 and 2015 only included staff salaries.
Sampling

According to the new organisational chart, the development and quality monitoring directorate is responsible for building sample frames and drawing samples for statistical surveys. However, the new organisational chart is not implemented yet due to the current situation in Libya. As a result, each statistical directorate is responsible for drawing its sample survey through the technical committee formed for each survey.

BSC has three sample frames:

- The sample frame for household surveys is built from the population census which was conducted in 2006 and updated in 2010 and 2012 by the national household survey conducted in 2012. The population register is a good base for improving the quality of the sample frame. Unfortunately, the population register is not at BSC’s disposal.
- The sample frame for business surveys is built from the establishment census which was conducted in 2007.
- The sample frame for agriculture holding was built from the agriculture census which was conducted on 2007.

For business surveys, samples are drawn from the establishment’s sample frame, while samples for the household surveys are drawn from the households sample frame which was built from the 2006 population census. The sample frame contains 270,000 households. The agriculture census, conducted in 2007, uses the agriculture holding sample frame which was built from the 2006 census. The response rate for the sample surveys is high at 90%.

According to information received from BSC staff, procedures are in place to evaluate the quality of the sampling frame used for household surveys, but it is not clear how these procedures are applied and there is no supportive document provided.

Assessment:

- There is limited capacity in BSC to undertake statistical sampling; they receive external technical assistance from the Arab league and the World Bank.
- Mechanisms for improving the quality of sample frames are not available.

Access to data

Statistical law 1963, article 1, item 2 states that BSC should develop a proposal to set the dates and methods of conducting statistical operations, scheduling and
dissemination methods of the results to ensure the integrity, accuracy and adequacy of the results, and to publicize the access and use of the results.

However, the statistical law is lacking provisions concerning the access to micro data for research purposes and the right to access the necessary information free of charge.

BSC is seeking to allow users to obtain the type of data they are looking for and make it available through different means, including electronically. The BSC website is the main channel to disseminate official statistics produced by BSC and other official statistics like national accounts and balance of payments, which are compiled by the Ministry of Planning (MOP) but are not disseminated through their website.

The BSC website provides web access to publications. Some publications are launched on the website as statistical tables without the survey methodology. Users are not made aware of the methodology that was applied. Access to BSC data by users is authorized only upon receipt of written request and approval in conformity with the law. The assessment noted that there is no indication on the maximum number of days that BSC will respond to a data request. Hence, the response is not guaranteed within a specified period.

The law guarantees that statistical information is subject to open access with the exception of information whose access is restricted by law.

There are some restrictions to access various administrative records in line ministries. BSC is working with NSS components to develop coordination mechanisms in order to enhance the process of accessing administrative records in line ministries. In addition, BSC is planning to sign agreements or memorandum of understanding with line ministries. These agreements should ensure access to the administrative data.

Assessment:

- The statistical law does not guarantee that statistical data is subject to open access with the exception of data whose access is restricted by law;
the law also does not ensure that all users have equal access to official statistics at the same time.

- Currently, a dissemination strategy to identify the general pillars for the dissemination of official statistics and general trends, such as accessibility, partnership and relevance has not yet been developed. The strategy should identify the procedure that each data producer follows to launch publications and tables and to provide access to data.
- The website organised by the BSC is generally good, it has links to other producers like the ministry of planning, but still needs some more development to enable easy access to statistical products.
- Access to micro data, Public use files (PUF) and metadata which enable users to better understand which data are not adequately available.
- Existing communication and information technologies are not adequate to facilitate data access.

**Meeting user needs**

Statistical law 1963 contains a provision for producing official statistics to meet users’ needs. Article 1, item 2 states that BSC should develop a proposal to set the dates and methods of conducting statistical operations, scheduling and dissemination methods of the results to ensure the integrity, accuracy and adequacy of the results, and to publicize the access and use of the results.

The mission statement of the BSC is to “provide statistical data to make it a tool for planning and analysis, research and studies using the latest techniques and publicity of awareness of statistics in the Libyan society”.

The assessment noted that BSC has limited dialogue with users to identify and meet their needs and consider their priorities in the statistical production and dissemination. The available website statistics do not fully meet user needs. Some statistics are launched on the website as tables, and some users like to have the methodology along with the tables.

BSC has recently started to conduct a small sample user satisfaction survey in order to develop its services to meet user needs. The objectives of the survey are:

- Determine data users’ level of satisfaction
- To know users’ needs of statistics
- Quality Dimensions for detailed subjects
- Determine users’ expectations
- Determine areas of further development

The survey, still in the field, will allow BSC to process and analyse the data, produce a report and study the results and discuss them with users during a workshop. BSC will develop its services accordingly.

BSC didn’t have a full picture on whether the produced statistics meet the policy users’ needs.

Assessment:

1. BSC annual plan is not being discussed with the users to identify their needs and to reflect these needs in the annual plan.
2. Mechanism to reconcile user needs with BSC work programme and its priorities is not yet developed.
3. No survey has been implemented to measure the impact of using statistics in policy formulation and decision making. There is a need to implement such a survey in order to develop the statistical products that can meet user needs.

Geographical Information System (GIS)

The Social and demographic directorate within BSC is responsible for producing different types of maps used in the statistical surveys and census. Different types of maps, including a limited number of digital maps, were produced.

BSC is lacking maps as a result of the separation of BSC from the General Information Authority. Most of the produced maps are now with the General Information Authority. Partnership is lacking to ensure use of the maps by both parties.

BSC is willing to use new statistical methodology in producing different types of maps provided that GIS’ infrastructure (hardware, software and qualified technical staff) is made available.
Assessment:
1. Inadequate GIS infrastructure in terms of equipment, software and qualified staff.
2. BSC has no GIS system and hence the Official statistics are not disseminated using statistical maps prepared by the GIS system.
3. A limited number of digital maps are available at BSC after the separation from the general information authority.

Information technology and communication (ITC)
The Information technology directorate carries out its function by the following divisions:
- Technical support division
- Systems analysis and programming division

A proposal to develop the organisational chart in order to develop its function and to efficiently support the BSC has been developed and presented to BSC management. The proposed organisational chart includes a new division to handle data dissemination and statistical projects. The systems analysis and programming division is upgraded to handle statistical data bases. The proposed organisational chart will carry out its functions by the following divisions:
- Technical support division
- Systems analysis, programming and data bases
- Statistical projects and data dissemination division

As end of 2015, the total number of staff members in the information technology directorate is 14 employees. They include one IT manager, four employees in a technical support division and network division. The district offices have no IT staff as all staff is allocated in the central office in Tripoli.

To cope with the proposed organisational chart, the ITC directorate needs to hire the following posts:
- Two senior programmers
- One technical support and networking
- One graphic designer
- Two data base administrators
- Two GIS programmers
- One website designer and administrator
The assessment noted that there are inadequate training courses for IT personnel.

The server's room is not structured according to the technical standards and most of the spare parts to maintain the servers are not available. The instable electricity exposed the servers at risk. There is lack of firewall to protect the network from external violation.

Four servers with very low capacity (300 GB) and 136 PCs are available for BSC staff, while total number of staff is 201.

No advance backup system for BSC’s statistical and administrative data. IT staff are still using a manual backup system. Software and application programmes are not licensed.

The BSC’s website lacks adequate information and tools to enable easy access to statistical products for users. An English version of the website to help international statistical organisations access the BSC statistical products is not available.

This weak ITC infrastructure may partly be attributed to the separation of the BSC from the General Information Authority. Most of the vital resources including IT equipment, statistical databases, maps and documentations have been transferred to the GIA.

Assessment:
1. The IT staff are not qualified enough to perform their tasks and support the BSC. Most of the IT staff holding diploma degree (eight out of thirteen) have attended less than two further training courses.
2. The current situation of ITC in the BSC is not adequate to build a solid technology and communication infrastructure, maintain an effective operational environment, and deliver high quality and timely services that support BSC staff to professionally handle their daily work.
3. Unsuitable ITC premises and insufficient equipment at the Bureau level, the adequacy of the ITC infrastructure is estimated at only 55%.
4. The current Website is not good enough to disseminate BSC’s statistical products. It needs lot of developments to enable users to find and access the type of data they need.
Quality control

The BSC is planning to develop standards for a quality and building management system to monitor quality control procedures implemented during the statistical process. Currently, there are no internal guidelines, handbooks and recommendations to evaluate the quality of statistical processes including sampling and non-sampling errors and compliance with international standards. The BSC has no mechanism to check the quality of statistics produced by other statistical agencies within the NSS.

There are few quality control procedures applied during data collection and processing. These procedures include good training for fieldworkers, monitoring, supervising, field visits and then desk audits and coding of the questionnaires before data entry begins. During data entry, validation rules and consistency checks are applied.

The quality of IT infrastructure within the NSS did not adequately support collection, processing, dissemination, documentation and archiving of statistical information.

Data Quality Assurance Framework (DQAF), European code of practice which provides structure for assessing existing practices against best practices and identifies quality-related features of statistical processes and statistical products has not been developed and applied to any of the statistical products with the NSS.

The central bank of Libya is participating in the General Data Dissemination Standard (GDDS) where the member country commits to improving the quality of the data produced and disseminated by the national statistical system.

Assessment:

1. The BSC has no central department or section to support statistical directorates with quality control and management issues.
2. Quality control procedures applied in the BSC are considered modest, since they are limited to some procedures during data collection and data processing. No internal guidelines and recommendations are in place to evaluate the quality of statistical processes.
3. The BSC intends to develop and implement quality control procedures during all steps of the statistical process.

4. A mechanism to check the quality of statistics produced by other statistical agencies within the NSS is not available.

5. A weak IT infrastructure does not adequately support data processing, disseminating and archiving of statistical products.

6. Quality control procedures are usually one of the main contents of the statistical publication. BSC publications do not contain such procedures.

**Norms and methods used**

The BSC seizes the opportunity of having a new statistical law by including some articles dealing with norms, methods and classifications as well as the commitment of the NSS component to use these methods and standards developed by the BSC. These methodologies should be compliant with international standards, Article 14, item 4 states that: The Bureau is abided to define data sources and methodologies used in the classification of the data and article 17 item 1 state that: All ministries, public and private bodies should coordinate with the BSC before doing statistical operations and inform the Bureau of the forms prepared for statistical surveys or data collection and to commit to the definitions and methodologies, technical standards and classifications adopted by the Bureau.

Instructions from technical committees responsible for surveys administration are available. However, these instructions do include guidelines to monitor the implementation of quality controls.

The BSC and other data producers are able to operate on the principle of scientific independence (statistical methods, standards and procedures used for the implementation of statistical operations, timing of releases) without any political influence and in compliance with the rules of ethics and good conduct. They are able to facilitate the correct interpretation of data according to scientific standards on sources of information, methods and procedures.

However, the assessment noted that revisions in statistical methodology are not shared with users prior to the release of revised or updated data.
Methodological guidelines regarding data collection, data processing, data access, data protection and dissemination of statistical products are currently not available.

Methods of calculation and compilation of national accounts are compliant with SNA 1993 system and calculation methods and classifications used in CPI are in line with international recommendations.

Assessment:

1. Standard internal procedures or guidelines to hasten the statistical production process are not available. So far, instructions for the technical committees who are responsible for surveys administration are available.

2. A system of national classifications is not available, Statistical classifications are available at directorate level, but there is no central unit responsible for developing a system of statistical classifications.

3. Neither a code of conduct nor a code of practice for Libya’s official statistics is available.

4. The website didn’t include methodical explanations.

Regional collaboration
Libya has developed a number of cooperation agreements with regional and international organisations. For example, UNFPA is providing support on population related statistics. The World Bank has been working with the BSC on poverty related statistics. Eurostat has also been supporting the BSC on methodologies and standards. UNESCWA has also supported the BSC on economic statistics together with the IMF. PARIS21 has supported the BSC on coordinating the national statistics system. At the regional level, the AUC has helped call for political support to statistics while the AfDB has helped on a number of initiatives including the International Comparison Program.
Chapter 7: Recommendations

Following the above observations and findings, the assessment team would like to make the following recommendations:

National statistical system (NSS)

Short term

- The BSC should form the National Statistical Committee “NSC”, proposed in article 2 of the revised law 2014 to guide the process of building the NSS.
- The BSC should form a technical team representing the seventeen data centres to set coordination procedures and specify data sources and periodicity of data flow.
- The BSC to include representatives from ministries in events and workshops that discuss the strategy of the NSS.
- The BSC should coordinate with other ministries to specify the indicators produced by each partner, and subsequent classifications to be adopted.
- In order to be responsive to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the BSC should work with the Ministry responsible for reporting the SGDs to map data gaps and reporting mechanisms.
- To strengthen coordination of the national statistical system, the BSC should coordinate the production of a national strategy for the development of statistics covering key government ministries, departments, agencies and other institutions as may be seen relevant.

Medium term

- The BSC to develop mechanisms to ensure government support to the NSS.
- The BSC to coordinate with other partners to produce the National charter of official Statistics to specify the responsibilities of all parties.
- The BSC should sign a memorandum of cooperation with each data producer.

Institutional, Legislative Framework, and Organisational Set-up

Institutional

- The Government should explore possibilities of allocating the Bureau to the council of ministers as is the case with all ministries.
- The BSC to evaluate the Board of Management’s role after four years of office, find out the added value of having the board in charge and
decide on the continuity of the Board after the formation of the National Statistical Committee, which is proposed in the new version of the statistical law.

- To study the idea of combining the BSC with the prime minister, as BSC is the institution which is mandated to measure the performance of all ministries. The BSC is one of the components of the executive authority which should report to the head of the executive authority.
- The BSC to re-examine the roles and responsibilities of the chief statistician to ensure he/she is responsible for all technical matters relating to statistical operations.
- The BSC should prioritize upgrading the statistical law.
- The BSC should lead and coordinate the development of a National Strategy for the Development of Statistics to ensure the setting of short to medium term goals of statistical development in the country.

Legal framework

Short term

1. The law should clearly separate the powers between the chairman of the board who should provide leadership to the Board and the chief executive who should provide technical guidance of the BSC and the NSS.
2. The BSC should review the statistics law to specify the scope of statistics to be produced by the BSC and other ministries; the BSC should produce the national accounts.
3. The BSC should review the statistics law to determine the method of appointment the executive director.
4. The BSC to review the law to define the concept of official statistics
5. The BSC to review the law to define the concept of the national statistical system.
6. The BSC to review the law to identify the functions of the statistical units or data centres of the ministries.
7. The BSC to review the law to ensure professional independence.
8. To identify the concept of data users and highlight the issue of user-producer dialogue.
9. The law to be revised in coordination with partners of the NSS.
10. The law to be revised in accordance with the 2014 United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

Organisational structure

Medium term

The following recommendations are being made in relation to the organisational structure of the BSC and the NSS in Libya:
1. The Government should consider elevating the headship of the Bureau to that of a director general with the rank of deputy minister.

2. The BSC should consider reviewing its structure to have two deputy assistants: deputy assistant for statistical affairs to lead and manage the statistical directorates, and a deputy assistant for administration, finance and information technology to manage the central supportive directorates.

3. The BSC should review its structure to:
   - Establish a fieldwork surveys and censuses directorate to take the responsibility of data collection from all data sources, to all statistical directorates, with four divisions:
     - Branches offices divisions
     - Censuses division
     - Fieldwork surveys division
     - Cartography division
   - Establish a geographic and natural resources statistics directorate to be responsible for the following divisions:
     - Agriculture statistics division
     - Energy and water resources statistics division
     - Housing statistics divisions
     - Environment statistics divisions
   - Merge the vital statistics and records directorate in the statistical related Directorate with the demographic and social directorate
   - Methodology, standards and quality directorate to include four divisions:
     - Methodology and standards division
     - Data quality division
     - Sampling frames and sampling division
     - Central and administrative registers division
   - Integrate the human resources directorate with the Administrative and Financial Affairs Directorate; the function should be assigned to the Human Resources Division
   - Split the Industry and agriculture Division
   - Create a new division for national accounts
   - Create a new division for labour statistics
   - Have a public relations division split from services and linked to the executive director office
   - Link Monitoring and internal audit with the executive director
   - Create a division for labour statistics in the demography and social statistics directorate
• Create a division for health statistics in the demography and social statistics directorate
• Create a division for culture and education statistics in the demography and social statistics directorate
• Create a Tourism statistics division in the economic statistics directorate
• Create a Construction statistics division in the economic statistics directorate
• Split the public relations and services into divisions, public services to be linked in the administration and finance directorate and public relations to be linked with the executive director office
• Change the name of the Personnel division to Human resources division

In order to improve data quality, good national and international relations, specialization in specific areas, a new organisation chart is being proposed as outlined below:

**Figure 6: New BSC organisational chart**

![Organisational Chart](image-url)
**Premises**
The BSC should give priority to the purchase of a building to allow further development of the Bureau in various aspects such as data security, data confidentiality and data storage, to name a few. The new premises will also help raise visibility of the Bureau.

**Human resources**
The following recommendations are being made to the Bureau of Statistics in relation to Human Resource capacity within the NSS:

1. Ensure recruitment of qualified and competent personnel to fill positions recommended in the revised structure above
2. Set up the competence profile of each post at the Bureau
3. Set up job descriptions for all posts at the Bureau, combined with the competences, with clear job titles
4. Set up a human resources development plan to build the capacity of human resources across the national statistical system
5. Develop a capacity building plan to include the staff of the data centres in the ministries, as the centres constitute parts of the NSS
6. Give human resources issue priority among other actions to be taken in the near future
7. Develop conducive working conditions to attract more competent personnel
8. Put in place mechanisms to build the statistical capacity of young statisticians
9. Reduce staff turnover to safeguard the institutional memory that is primarily kept at the individual level

**Statistical process**

**General**

**Medium term**

1. Strengthen the statistical capacities of front line ministries by allocating adequate resources for operating the Management Information Systems in Education, Health, Labour Market, Vital Registration, Ministry of Finance, and Business Registers
2. Strengthen the capacities of the BSC to produce and disseminate population- and enterprise-based statistics that meet the needs of policymakers and the user community.
3. Identify the procedures for exchanging quantitative information between front line ministries and the BSC
4. Up-date national statistical standards (classifications) to comply with international recommendations for statistical process and methodologies, such as SNA 2008, ISCED 2011, ICD-10, ISIC 4, IMF Manual 6, etc.
5. Survey Programme: the BSC to design a household-based and enterprise-based annual survey programme
6. Methodological Guidelines: the BSC should draft field manuals and methodological guidelines (metadata) for census and surveys
7. The BSC should up-date thematic survey methodologies for compliance with international standards (National Account, Government Finances, Customs, Education, Health, Labour Market...)
8. The BSC should lead and coordinate the development of a training programme for government staff involved in the collection and processing of social and economic statistics. Staff to benefit from the training should be selected not only from the BSC, but also from all front line ministries responsible for the production of statistics
9. The BSC to ensure applying to the IMF GDDS programme

**Economic statistics**

1. Agriculture Statistics: the BSC should collaborate with the Ministry of Agriculture to strengthen Statistics Divisions in MOA and improve internal coordination for data collection and dissemination; Coordination and harmonisation of statistical processes
2. Agriculture Statistics: the BSC should engage the Ministry of Agriculture to produce an Agriculture Sectoral Strategy for the Development of Statistics which will also be a building block of the NSDS
3. Business Registers: the BSC should collaborate with the Ministry of Industry and the Libyan Chamber of Commerce to undertake a comprehensive census of enterprises operating in the public and private sectors in Libya in order to establish a Business Registration system
4. Informal Sector Statistics: the BSC should collaborate with the Ministry of Industry to establish a national definition and scope of activities of the informal sector in Libya, following a review of international recommendations
5. Price Statistics: the BSC should update CPI and PPI consumption basket and relative weights based on the 2012 new household Income-Expenditure survey. A new HIES should be planned soon to update the CPI basket
6. National Accounts: the BSC together with the Central Bank and the Ministry of Planning should make a comprehensive assessment of the
National accounts to determine moving to SNA 2008, who should be responsible for specific data and developing a technical committee on national Accounts. EURETES methodology could also be considered

7. External and internal trade statistics: the BSC should collaborate with the Ministry of Industry, and the Department of Customs to review current methods for producing trade statistics and design updated methodology in accordance with the IMF standards and recommendations. The BSC should also ensure that members of staff working on trade statistics are capacitated in software packages that are used to process trade statistics such as Euro trace and ASYCUDA

8. The BSC should work with respective Government Ministries and departments to further develop statistics on Services, ITC, Environment, Transport, Energy, Tourism, and Finances.

Social and demographic statistics

Medium Term

1. Population statistics: the BSC, in collaboration with relevant Ministries such as Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior and development partners such as the UNFPA, should ensure conduct of a population census in 2016 or any period around this date to maintain the decennial periodicity in compliance with the United Nations recommendation for the 2020 census round. The Population census plan should ensure inclusion of a pilot survey for testing the questionnaire and field organisation, and a Post-Enumeration Survey (PES) aiming at assessing the quality of collected data and geographic coverage. Use of modern data collection mechanisms such as tablets, electronic maps, scanning for data capture is strongly recommended. A number of countries in the region such as Egypt (2016) and Jordan (2015) have successfully used such mechanisms and sharing experience would be ideal.

2. Population projections based on the results of the latest population census and demographic parameters and assumptions should be undertaken using the UN proposed methodology.

3. Master sample frame: Evaluate the accuracy and relevance of the Household Master Sample based on the 2006 Population Census, in order to assess the opportunity to adopt the same sampling methodology on results of the next population census.

4. Health statistics: The Ministry of Health should ensure compliance with WHO ICD-10 to declare death events and causes of death for Vital Registration. There is a need to ensure staff training at all levels to ensure they are able to use the above reporting mechanisms in line with
international classifications and standards. The Ministry of Health should equip health units with HMIS procedures and data collection tools. The BSC should collaborate with the Ministry of Health to develop a Health Sector Strategy for the Development of Statistics to ensure medium term statistical development plans are formulated.

5. Disability statistics: In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, the BSC should undertake a Disability survey to complement other existing sources (pop census, PAPFAM, HH EXP/Income), with Washington Group methodology. The survey will also be a direct response to the need for accounting the number of people who might have been disabled following the 2011 political revolution.

6. Education statistics: The Ministry of Education should upgrade the EMIS to comply with UNESCO recommendations for education statistics; train staff; equip schools with EMIS procedures and data collection tools. The BSC should collaborate with the Ministry of Education to develop an Education Sector Strategy for the Development of Statistics for medium term statistical development in the sector which will also form a building block of the NSDS. The BSC should also call for a technical committee between the BSC, the Ministry and other representatives of educational institutions such as higher level education to discuss issues relating to data collection, quality, and reporting. The BSC and the Ministry should be responsible for drafting Terms of Reference for this committee.

7. Vital Registration system: The Ministry of Interior should resume the compilation of vital events and publication. Assess the current coverage by type of event and by district. Improve accuracy of causes of death according to WHO ICD-10. The BSC and the Ministry of Interior should establish a technical committee to oversee vital events statistics procedures, reporting and capacity building mechanisms. An independent assessment of the actual rate of coverage for each type of event and by geographic district would be required to provide an accurate estimate of coverage rates.

8. Data on food security and consumption should be updated in order to measure the impact of the ongoing turmoil in the country on health and food consumption patterns.

9. Labour statistics: In collaboration with the Ministry of Labour, the BSC should undertake a new Labour Force Survey with an updated survey methodology, concepts and definitions that would better comply with ILO standards and classifications. The BSC should work in partnership with the Ministry of Labour to develop a Labour Sector Strategy for the Development of Statistics. More use of administrative records by the
Ministry of Labour from the labour market is recommended to feed into the statistical system.

10. Wages: The Ministry of Labour should also support the establishment of administrative records for measuring wages in the public and private sectors.

11. Standards of living: the BSC should conduct a household-based sample survey in order to measure household poverty, income and expenditure, and to update the consumption basket and consumption weights to be used by National Accounts, and CPI.

12. Although there is no ministerial department specifically responsible for Gender statistics, the BSC should develop a methodology for measuring gender specific statistics, as recommended by UNECE. One of the major tools that could be used is to design a Time-Use Survey that would be adapted to the national cultural context in Libya. The BSC should also consider developing a Gender and Development Index that was proposed by UNECA, which could then be monitored on an annual basis.

13. Child labour statistics: the BSC should undertake a household-based survey for measuring the scope and intensity of child labour in the country. The survey could be either a self-standing exercise, along the lines of the UNICEF/ILO methodology, a module that could be attached to another household-based survey such as the Labour Force Survey, an Income-Expenditure Survey, or a Demographic and Health Survey. As a means of rationalizing surveys, the latter approach is more desirable.

**Cross cutting issues**

The following recommendations are being made in relation to cross cutting issues believed to have a direct impact on statistical development in Libya.

**Capacity building**

**Short term:**

1. The BSC should give prioritize the training needs for the NSS components including regional and international training, study tours and participation in the international statistical conferences and workshops, taking into consideration available financial resources.

2. Leadership and Management of the BSC should negotiate with the Ministry of Finance to allocate an adequate budget for statistical capacity building.
3. The BSC to prepare training needs analysis study for NSS components, determine the most urgently needed training, analyse them and then start implementing the training courses.

4. NSS components should use some of the regional capacity building institutions such as the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics (AITRS, Jordan), ESCWA and other institutions, East Africa Statistics Training Centre in Tanzania.

Medium term:

1. It is highly recommended that the BSC develop a three year rolling training plan and once approved, the BSC to start coordination with donors to finance the plan.

2. BSC management should develop a competence profile for BSC staff in order to be the base for training and development (Competence profiling means delineation of necessary skills for effective and efficient execution of tasks in order to perform a set of functions described in a Job Description).

**Sampling**

1. The BSC is in need of hiring qualified staff to undertake the statistical sampling.

2. The BSC should develop procedures to evaluate the quality of the sampling frame used for household surveys, economic enterprises, and agriculture holdings.

3. The BSC should ensure that the above sample frames are updated on a regular basis.

4. The BSC should identify individuals to be capacitated in sampling.

5. A comprehensive assessment of data from population census and that from population registers should be undertaken to determine if there are discrepancies.

**Access to data**

Short term:

1. The BSC should ensure that the new statistics law regulates that all users have equal access to official statistics at the same time.

2. It is recommended that the BSC should develop a statistical release calendar which includes all statistical products and the release date for each product. The calendar should be available and accessible to users preferably through the website.
3. The BSC should ensure that the website is reorganized and restructured to be more user friendly including:
   - Efficient search engine, downloadable tables in excel, more links to data producers, national statistical offices, Arab region and international statistical organisations like AFDB, UNECA, PARIS21, UNSD, ESCWA and UNFPA.

4. The BSC should develop a data dissemination strategy which should include micro data dissemination mechanisms to identify the procedure that each data producer should follow across the NSS. These should include but not limited to:
   - Conditions for release of data, classes of users, degree of anonymization and types of data files required – macro or micro data
   - Access methods
   - Responsibilities
   - Disclaimer

Meeting user needs

Short term:

1. The existing user-producer dialogue between the BSC and users in line ministries need to be organized and strengthening. This dialogue should include a series of workshops during the year to discuss different statistical issues in order to identify user needs and incorporate them in the yearly statistical programme.

2. The BSC should identify, through different means, the needs of all users to ensure easily accessible tailored statistics that meet national needs. A stakeholder analysis is required here to ensure demand driven statistics are produced. It is further recommended that the BSC should develop an annual user producer dialogue programme to discuss different statistical issues and to identify user needs and priorities.

3. Strengthening the statistical knowledge among all users should be one of the BSC’s priorities in the work programme.

Medium term:

1. The BSC should develop and promote a wide range of data dissemination mechanisms including electronic data dissemination, paper publications, telecommunication media, multimedia, mass media, as well as face to face dialogue with stakeholders such as participants in professional public debates.
2. The BSC should ensure that user satisfaction surveys are conducted on a regular basis by an independent institution preferably every 2-3 years.
3. The BSC should develop a mechanism to reconcile user needs with the work programme.
4. The BSC to initiate a survey to measure the impact of using the statistics in policy formulation and decision making.
5. It is recommended that the BSC should study the idea of dedicating a section to deal with the users’ requests via electronic means and physical visits to the BSC. The responsible section should ensure responding to users’ requests within a specified period. It is also recommended that users should be informed about the maximum time they can wait before they can expect a response to their data request.

Geographic information system (GIS)

Short term:

1. It is recommended that the BSC should coordinate with the general information authority to have access to the available different types of maps in the authority.
2. The BSC is recommended to build strong relations with national and international organisations who process GIS.
3. The BSC should already start putting in place mechanisms to develop electronic maps to be used in the next population and housing census.

Medium term:

1. It is highly recommended that the BSC should establish a cartography and GIS department within the social and demographic directorate. Due to the high cost of establishing such a department (equipment’s, software, hiring technical staff, training), a project document alongside a project budget is to be prepared and introduced to the ministry of finance and finance and development partners to support the initiative.

Information technology and communication (ITC)

Short term:

1. The BSC is recommended to study and analyse the adequacy of the IT human resources in terms of their qualifications and capacities. The results of the study probably come out with hiring new qualified staff and/or advanced training for the current staff.
Medium term:

1. The BSC should put efforts to improve ITC infrastructure by the following means:
   - Rehabilitate the server room including replacing the current servers with new high specifications servers
   - Replace the old PCs with new ones
   - Replace the un-licensed software with licensed software

2. Major development to the website is recommended to become an adequate tool to disseminate BSC statistical products and enable the users’ ability to find and access the type of data they are looking for. Such development should include:
   - User friendly presentation
   - Downloadable tables in excel
   - Have a link to national statistical offices and national data producers
   - Efficient Search engine

Quality control

Short term:

1. It is recommended that the BSC should review and develop the current quality control procedures to cover all steps of the statistical production process starting from survey planning and design and passing through data collection, data processing, data analysis and dissemination.

2. The BSC should start adding a section in all statistical publications illustrating the applied quality control procedures during the implementation of the surveys.

Medium term:

1. It is recommended that the divisions of methodological issues and quality management within BSC are provided with appropriate competences.

2. The BSC is recommended to develop mechanism to check the quality of statistics produced by other statistical agencies within the NSS in collaboration with main stakeholders.

3. The BSC’s compliance with DQAF principles was not evaluated. It is recommended that the BSC should be evaluated by an external consultant, who would conduct a light peer review of the implementation of the European statistics code of practice.
4. As coordinator of the NSS, it is recommended that the BSC work in collaboration with the Central Bank of Libya and Ministry of Finance to take the necessary steps towards Libya’s accession in the special data dissemination standards (SDDS) adopted by IMF. Contribution in SDDS will improve the statistical data quality.

**Norms and methods used**

**Short term:**

1. The BSC is recommended to start adding a section within the statistical publications on methodological issues that inform users on related aspects of the statistical product (sample frame, weight calculation, data collection, data processing and quality control).
2. The BSC is recommended to improve the methods for guaranteeing statistical confidentiality.
3. Code of practice for Libya’s official statistics and code of conduct (professional ethics) to be developed by the BSC.

**Medium term:**

1. The BSC should ensure that all stakeholders are using updated and compatible national classification system with international statistical methodologies and standards. The system should include the most important standards of statistical classifications (ISIC, ISCO, HS, CPC, COICOP, ICD and SIEC).
2. Through the development of sector strategies for the development of statistics and indeed through the NSDS, the BSC should ensure mechanism or methodology is in place to assess the quality of administrative data in line ministries. The methodology is to be developed and implemented in collaboration with the main stakeholders.
3. It is recommended that the BSC should develop and use unified norms and methods in compliance with EU standards.
4. New statistical methodologies guidelines for data collection and compilation, like geographic information systems (GIS), should be designed for climate changes and adopted by the BSC in collaboration with the government ministry or agency responsible for environment.
Chapter 8: The Road Ahead

NSS assessment
The NSS assessment is an important step in a modernized NSS. The findings from the assessment will provide a basis for modernizing the statistical system by drafting the first National Strategy for the Development of Statistics in Libya. In addition to the above recommendations, the modernization process of the statistical system should include:

Organisational development and management
- Restructuring the organisational model
- Building an institutional management system
- Strengthening staff training and re-training
- Developing statistical data dissemination
- Creating a strategy to increase user's statistical literacy

Statistical infrastructure
- Improvement of Household Sample Frame
- Improvement of economic surveys through the establishment of a Statistical Register of enterprises and individual entrepreneurs
- Improved agriculture holdings surveys sample frame
- Information technology, Computers and Office equipment
- Digital mapping, GIS
- Statistical software for data entry processing and analysis
- Data Quality control
- Improved access to internet and intranet

Coordination
- Strengthen internal coordination within the BSC by drafting and implementing a corporate strategy
- Strengthen coordination between the BSC, line ministries and stakeholders by developing and implementing an NSDS
**NSDS road map**

The preliminary phase of the NSDS process is to design a roadmap which is approved by main stakeholders. This roadmap is considered as a reference document for all actors involved in the NSDS process.

The road map should be based on findings and recommendations from the NSS assessment report which is the basis for NSS modernization.

The BSC, who will lead the process of a NSDS, should identify the required activities to develop the strategy, set a schedule and specify the necessary resources. A high quality NSDS will depend on the use of an integrated roadmap and contributions from key stakeholders in all steps of the NSDS process through regular consultations and conducting workshops. The following three main stages for the NSDS road map are expected to create a coherent framework for the formulation of the NSDS.

**Preparatory stage**

The BSC should prepare a concept note to develop the NSS strategy. This note can be used to gain support from the government where the council of ministers can adopt a resolution to develop the strategy. Once the government adopts the resolution, a team from the BSC and NSS components can develop the strategy, start preparing the subsequent budget, and begin the preparation of supportive documents to develop a NSDS (statistical law, code of practice, fundamental principles, PARIS21-Guide to design National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) etc.).

The Management Board Chairman and executive director can identify the partners within the NSS from users and producers and identify consultants and time frames needed to design the NSDS.

The NSDS team, under the supervision of BSC management, is to conduct a user satisfaction survey or undertake stakeholder consultation workshops. The results of this survey and the assessment report recommendations are to be incorporated in the NSDS design process.

Finally, the executive director and NSDS team are to prepare workshop programmes between the BSC and partners in the NSS. The programme should include a list of workshops, venues, participants and expected dates.
Design stage

All processes of NSDS design are to be implemented with coordination and participation of the main stakeholders. The design process should start by diagnosing and analysing the NSS using a SWOT analysis through national workshop. The NSDS team and consultants should produce a diagnostic analysis report which should identify available strengths to build upon, weaknesses to find appropriate solutions, opportunities that could be used to develop the system and threats the national statistical system can be expected to face in order to develop scenarios to neutralize negative impacts on the system. Analysis should be conducted by four themes: strengths against opportunities, strengths against threats, weaknesses against opportunities and weaknesses against threats.

The Basic fundamentals to develop the strategy include a vision, mission and values that control the statistical work. The NSS vision is to be discussed and assessed through national workshop organized by the NSDS team. Discussions and the exchange of opinions should help reach a consensus about the vision which should accommodate the following elements:

- Non-technical terms that are easy to understand
- Directed towards the public
- Targeted to a wide range of users
- Easy - simple - brief

Another national workshop should be conducted to discuss and exchange views with main stakeholders in line ministries and reach a consensus about the NSS mission statement. The mission statement should be built based on the following subjects:

- Outline main tasks for the bureau of statistics and national statistical agencies
- Based on the legal framework (statistical law and code of practices)
- In line with fundamental principles and international recommendations

The NSDS team is to identify the professional values with the NSS components. These values should be derived from the code of practice and European best practices. Values could be elements related to relevance (Providing statistical information to support the decision making process in governmental and institutions), integrity (The national statistical
system gains public trust through transparent methods), quality (NSS product of high quality), confidentiality (statistical law guarantee the Confidentiality of individual and personal data collected for statistical purposes) and other values.

One of the main steps when designing a NSDS is the identification of strategic goals and operational objectives. The NSDS team and consultants are to identify the problems and challenges facing the national statistical system, analyse and categorize these problems, then start developing the strategic objects. The strategic goals should be SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Timely), identifying the problems and strategic goals should be achieved by conducting at least two national workshops.

Once the strategic objectives have been developed, the NSDS team should start developing the logical framework approach (objectives, outputs, activities, indicators and means of verification). This involves estimating the cost of each activity and total budget of the NSDS for a five year period and identifying financing sources. The partners must crucially be associated into this stage of the work to determine the share of each party.

The last step in the NSDS design phase is developing a monitoring and evaluation system to monitor the implementation of NSDS activities: evaluation of achievements, impact of activities implemented and level of completion compared to the related objective. The monitoring system should be based on:

- Progress reports: monthly, quarterly and yearly
- Performance indicators: measurement indicators and means of verifications
- Measuring the impact: surveys to measure the impact of using the official statistics by different categories of users

Finally, the NSDS team is to prepare the final NSDS document and have it approved by the management board. The chairman of the management board is to follow up on the NSDS adaptation by the council of ministers.

Once the NSDS is adopted by the council of ministers, the NSDS team will have to prepare an awareness plan targeting BSC staff, partners and the stakeholders in public and private sectors, universities, research institutions and donor community. The awareness plan should include the following activities:
• Launching NSDS on the website
• Conducting a series of workshops for BSC staff
• Distributing hard copies of the NSDS to main stakeholders
• Creating a brochure of the executive summary of the NSDS
• Distributing NSDS brochures to the public
• Interviewing with Mass media

**Implementation stage**

After the NSDS has been adopted by the council of ministers, the action plan can be implemented. The NSDS team will have to prepare a five year action plan to implement the strategy and produce monthly, quarterly and yearly progress reports. The team should ensure the consistency of the action plan and promote active involvement of senior management.

For the monitoring and evaluation system, NSDS team should prepare:
• Five year action plan to measure the performance of NSDS implementation
• Periodic progress reports
9. Annexes

9.1: List of participants

Assessment of Libya’s Statistical System
Attendance Sheet
27th – 29th February 2016

<table>
<thead>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Shelton Kanyanda</td>
<td>PARIS 21</td>
<td>Program Coordinator - Africa Region</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Shelton.KANYANDA@oe.cd.org">Shelton.KANYANDA@oe.cd.org</a></td>
<td>+33 78 19 74 426</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
9.2: Documents reviewed

- The filled questionnaires about the BSC include:
  - Data collection instruments: Household-based Surveys (Census, Sample Thematic Survey), Administrative Records
  - Guiding questions on: institutional, legislative framework and organisational set-up
  - Products: Basic Economic Statistics (Industry, Trade and Small Industries, Consumer Prices, Producer Prices, and National Accounts including implementation of the SNA)
  - Data collection instruments: Business-based Surveys (Economic Census, Sample Survey), Administrative Records
  - Council of Ministers decision no. 136/2012, on split of the BSC from GAI
  - Council of Ministers decision no. 90/2013, on the organisational structure and administrative system
- The statistical law no. 16/1963
- The updated law 2014
- The Fundamental Principles on official statistics
- The African Charter on Statistics
- The BSC organisational structure
- Data on infrastructure
- Data on human resources
- Data on IT infrastructure
- The BSC website
- Data on Libya statistics in the Internet
## 9.3: Proposed NSDS road map

Proposed Road Map for NSDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NO.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2.  | Prepare concept note paper on developing NSDS for NSS, the paper should contain:  
- Background  
- NSDS justification  
- NSDS process  
- NSDS phases (preliminary, design and implementation)  
- NSDS Roadmap | 2 weeks | Chief of management Board | | Concept note | |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Governance support to develop NSDS</th>
<th>2 weeks</th>
<th>Chief of management Board</th>
<th>Adoption of a resolution to develop the strategy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Team formation from the BSC and NSS components to develop the strategy</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>Chief of management Board</td>
<td>Team formation resolution to develop the strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Prepare budget to develop the strategy</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
<td>Chief of management Board</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Prepare supportive documents to develop NSDS (statistical act, code of practice, fundamental principles, etc.)</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
<td>Supportive documents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Identification of partners in NSS (users and producers)</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>Chief of management Board</td>
<td>Partners list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Activity Description</td>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>Responsible Party</td>
<td>Assisting Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Determine the need to contract consultants during NSDS design</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>Chief of management Board</td>
<td>Executive director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>BSC staff contributions in developing NSDS</td>
<td>14 weeks</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
<td>BSC Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>User satisfaction survey</td>
<td>12 weeks</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
<td>Consultants team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Data dissemination policy assessment</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
<td>Consultants team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Administrative records current status assessment</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
<td>Consultants team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Statistical programme assessment</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
<td>Consultants team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Prepare workshop programmes between the BSC and the partners in NSS</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Task Description</td>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>Team Responsible</td>
<td>Status Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Diagnosis and analysis for the NSS using SWOT Analysis</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
<td>Consultants team diagnostic analysis report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>NSS Vision assessment</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
<td>Consultants team NSS Vision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>NSS Mission assessment</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
<td>Consultants team NSS Mission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>Identification of professional values that control the statistical work in NSS</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
<td>Consultants team NSS professional values</td>
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<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Strategic and operational objectives articulation</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
<td>Consultants team Strategic and operational objectives report</td>
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<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Develop five year action plan to implement the strategy</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
<td>Chief of management Board &amp; Executive director Five year action plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.</td>
<td>Develop performance action plan (KPIs)</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
<td>Consultants team Performance Measurable indicators action plan</td>
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<td>22.</td>
<td>Develop monitoring and evaluation system</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
<td>Consultants team</td>
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<tr>
<td>23.</td>
<td>Prepare budget to implement NSDS for five years</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
<td>NSS Partners</td>
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<tr>
<td>24.</td>
<td>NSDS Adaptation by the council of ministers</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
<td>Chief of management Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>25.</td>
<td>Prepare NSDS awareness plan</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>NSDS team</td>
<td>Consultants team</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### 9.4 Major Statistical Activities Carried Out since 1963

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Year/Period</th>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Periodicity</th>
<th>Scope</th>
<th>Sample size/coverage</th>
<th>Output</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1966 to 2014</td>
<td>External trade statistics</td>
<td>Administrative records</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Released on the LBSC internet website</td>
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<td>1992 to 2013</td>
<td>Industrial statistics</td>
<td>Enterprise-based survey</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Released on the LBSC internet website</td>
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<td>1992 to 2013</td>
<td>Service statistics</td>
<td>Enterprise-based survey</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Released on the LBSC internet website</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>1997 to 2007</td>
<td>Agriculture Survey</td>
<td>Farm-based survey</td>
<td>Decennial</td>
<td>National sample</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Consumer Price Index (CPI) and Producer Price Index (PPI)</td>
<td>Market based survey</td>
<td>Monthly (with interruption in 2012-2014)</td>
<td>Market prices</td>
<td>Last results: BSC: 6.1%; CBL: 12%; World Bank: 15%</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>2003 to 2008</td>
<td>Income and Expenditure survey</td>
<td>Household based sample surveys</td>
<td>Three years</td>
<td>Sample (partial geographic coverage)</td>
<td>Latest results published in 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>ID</td>
<td>Year Range</td>
<td>Survey Type</td>
<td>Sample Type</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Sample Description</td>
<td>Released On</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>2003 to 2013</td>
<td>Internal trade statistics</td>
<td>Administrative records</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Released on the LBSC internet website</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Population Census</td>
<td>Household based census</td>
<td>Decennial</td>
<td>Exhaustive Global</td>
<td>Population size, characteristics, and geographic distribution</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>National Socio Economic Survey (NSES)</td>
<td>Household based sample surveys</td>
<td>Ad-hoc</td>
<td>Nationally representative sample based on the 2006 Population census</td>
<td>Sample size: 19,660 households</td>
<td>Results released in the Food Security and Food Subsidy Reform in Libya</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Census of enterprises</td>
<td>Enterprise based economic survey</td>
<td>Decennial</td>
<td>Public and Private sectors</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>Demographic Survey</td>
<td>Household based sample surveys</td>
<td>Ad-hoc</td>
<td>Sample</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Survey Name</td>
<td>Sample Type</td>
<td>Method</td>
<td>Sample Description</td>
<td>Result</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Population Headcount</td>
<td>Household based survey</td>
<td>Ad-hoc</td>
<td>Exhaustive</td>
<td>About 1 million households based on the Master Sample Frame</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Stepwise Health survey</td>
<td>Household based surveys</td>
<td>Ad-hoc</td>
<td>Sample</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Business registers</td>
<td>Administrative records</td>
<td>3-4 years</td>
<td>3-4 years</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>National Family Health Survey (PAPFAM)</td>
<td>Household based surveys</td>
<td>Ad-hoc</td>
<td>National random sample</td>
<td>Published end 2015</td>
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</table>
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