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ANNEX 5

ANNEX

to the

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

**on the financing of the Programme for the internal market, competitiveness of
entreprises, including small and medium-sized enterprises, the area of plants, animals,
food and feed, and European Statistics and the adoption of the work programme for
2023-2024**

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ANNEX V

PRODUCING AND DISSEMINATING HIGH QUALITY STATISTICS ON EUROPE

1. INTRODUCTION

This programme is based on the eligible actions set out in Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2021/690 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing a programme for the internal market, competitiveness of enterprises, including small and medium-sized enterprises, the area of plants, animals, food and feed, and European statistics (Single Market Programme) and repealing Regulations (EU) No 99/2013, (EU) No 1287/2013, (EU) No 254/2014 and (EU) No 652/2014 (for the specific objective related to European statistics).

The work programme implements the specific objective of producing and communicating high-quality statistics on Europe in a timely, impartial and cost-efficient manner, through enhanced partnerships within the European Statistical System. The European Statistical System Committee has been consulted on the measures provided for in this work programme in accordance with Article 17 of Regulation (EC) 223/2009.

It contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for the year 2023, as follows:

- (a) for grants (implemented under direct management, see point 2) total amount of EUR 29 180 000;
- (b) for procurements (implemented under direct management, see point 3) total amount of EUR 60 104 250;
- (c) for actions implemented in indirect management (see point 4) total amount of EUR 550 000;
- (d) for contributions to trust funds (see point 5) total amount of EUR 250 000;
- (e) for other actions (see point 6) total amount of EUR 1 120 000.

The indicative total budget amounts to EUR 91 204 250.

The budget includes appropriations arising from the participation of EEA EFTA States to the programme and are therefore subject to the agreement on their participation.

Legal basis:

Regulation (EU) 2021/690 (for the specific objective related to European statistics) and Regulation (EC) No 223/2009

Budget line:

03.0205
Single Market Programme — Producing and disseminating high-quality statistics on Europe

Objectives pursued:

The 2023 work programme, the third under the Single Market Programme, will contribute to the European response to challenges such as the social and economic consequences of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, higher energy prices, supply chain problems and higher inflation. There is also still high uncertainty surrounding the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic. Supporting the economic recovery and getting back on a path of sustainable growth will be of paramount importance. More targeted, timely and reliable statistics are key factors in improving policy-making and public debate. Therefore, social statistics will be further modernised and the role of social indicators will be reinforced. The military aggression of Russia against Ukraine will require reporting of statistics on temporary protection for the year 2022 in 2023. Furthermore, statistics on how people fleeing the war in Ukraine integrate into the Union in terms of health, education, employment, social inclusion, housing, and active citizenship will be needed. The European Statistical Recovery Dashboard, containing indicators from a broad range of statistical areas, will be further improved in terms of coverage, functionality and timeliness, respecting the needs of users. Data will be collected on the Recovery and Resilience Facility, the instrument for providing grants and loans to support reforms and investments in the Member States. Climate neutrality, the green transition and digitalisation figure among the main European challenges and Eurostat will provide data in these domains as well. As the energy mix and the energy and material dependency of the European Union on Russia constitute an important topic in connection with the invasion of Ukraine, special attention will be given to energy statistics and material flow data. There will be a particular focus, as in the past, on themes such as the European Green Deal, the Sustainable Development Goals, the environment, transport, innovation, research and development, health, population, skills, disability and accessibility, agriculture, the use of pesticides, the circular economy and waste. Timely and comprehensive statistical indicators on regions, including the European Union outermost regions, cities and rural areas, to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of territorial development policies will be also provided. Different dissemination channels will help the effective communication and dissemination of statistics among various stakeholder groups. Eurostat's social media presence will be further developed and interactive digital publications and dashboards with statistics and data related to the Commission headline ambitions will be promoted. Work on improving statistical literacy will continue and Eurostat's website will be further reviewed to meet the expectations of modern users. To progress in the modernisation of the production of European statistics, the programme will devote increased resources to building capacity within the European Statistical System so that the system can: (i) respond faster to emerging trends and user needs; (ii) make use of new types of data, data sources and tools; (iii) provide relevant information by integrating different data sources (surveys, administrative data and non-traditional sources); (iv) develop the skills of official statisticians; (v) improve the statistical literacy of the general public; (vi) build partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders. Eurostat will continue implementing the third round of peer reviews in the European Statistical System, as well as the current cycle of quality reviews of Eurostat's statistical processes and output. In Eurostat, there is also a special focus on the field of IT. For example, the rationalisation and evolution of the IT systems for statistical production will be ongoing. In addition, the development of the trusted smart statistics infrastructure will be supported, as will the information systems for the exchange of data and metadata in the European Statistical System. Exploiting new technologies and new data sources will continue to figure among the main challenges. Eurostat will continue to closely cooperate with national

statistical authorities and with national interior ministries and/or related competent immigration agencies in case of data concerning Ukraine.

Expected results:

Development, production and dissemination of European statistics, under the framework given by the Single Market Programme, and in accordance with the principles of the European statistics Code of Practice through close and coordinated cooperation within the European Statistical System (ESS).

Efficiency gains and quality improvements in the production of European statistics as well as better flexibility and productivity across the European Statistical System. Better responsiveness to user requirements and innovative communication of European statistics, use of new data sources, and improved data exchange.

2. GRANTS

The budget reserved for grants under this work programme is EUR 29 180 000.

Actions are listed according to their relation to headings in Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2021/690 (for the specific objective related to European statistics).

Concerning Producing and disseminating high-quality statistics in Europe, under Article 195(d) and 195(f) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, it is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to specify the conditions for awarding these grants. As stated in Article 5(3) of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009, the national statistical institutes and other national authorities included in the list referred to in Article 5(2) of the Regulation may receive grants without a call for proposals. Grants may also be awarded without a call for proposals for actions with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body with specific technical competences, a high degree of specialisation or specific administrative powers, on condition that the actions concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals.

Selection and award criteria in case of open calls for proposals (Action 8)

As regards the open calls envisaged in this work programme, each proposal will be evaluated on the basis of the selection criteria specified in the respective calls for proposals. Indicatively, these criteria are based on the following:

- Financial capacity to complete the proposed operation;
- Stable and sufficient sources of finance to ensure the continuity of the organisation throughout the project and to play a part in financing it;
- Operational (technical and management) capacity to complete the operation;
- Capacity to manage activities corresponding to the size of the project for which a grant is requested;
- Adequate professional qualifications and experience of the team responsible for the project/operation.

An evaluation of the quality of proposals, including the proposed budget, will be based on the following award criteria:

- Relevance of the actions proposed in view of the objectives established in the call;
- Quality of the proposed actions;
- Impact on target audience.

Indicative budget breakdown per Action:

Action	Estimated budget (EUR)	Indicative timetable
Action 1 — Award of grants without a call for proposals in the areas of Economic and Monetary Union, globalisation and trade (Heading 1)	12 900 000	July – December 2023
Action 2 — Award of grants without a call for proposals in the area of Internal market, innovation and digital transformation (Heading 2)	750 000	October 2023
Action 3 — Award of grants without a call for proposals in the area of Social dimension of Europe (Heading 3)	5 500 000	June 2023
Action 4 — Award of grants without a call for proposals in the area of Sustainable development, natural resources and environment (Heading 4)	3 750 000	November – December 2023
Action 5 — Award of grants without a call for proposals in the area of Economic, social and territorial cohesion (Heading 5)	700 000	December 2023
Action 6 — Award of grants without a call for proposals in the area of Better communication of European statistics and its values	580 000	June 2023

by promoting it as a trustworthy source in tackling disinformation (Heading 6)		
Action 7 — Award of grants without a call for proposals in the area of Reaping the benefits of data revolution and moving to trusted smart statistics (Heading 7)	2 400 000	July 2023
Action 8 — Open call for proposals in the area of Reaping the benefits of data revolution and moving to trusted smart statistics (Heading 7)	2 600 000	December 2023
Total (EUR)	29 180 000	

The maximum co-financing rate is 95%.

2.1. Action 1 — Award of grants without a call for proposals in the areas of Economic and Monetary Union, globalisation and trade (Heading 1)

Type of applicants targeted by the award of grants without a call for proposals:

Under Article 195(d) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 and Article 10(1)(h) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690: bodies that are identified in the list referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 as national statistical institutes or other national authorities responsible for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics, after evaluation of the projects submitted.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grants awarded without a call for proposals under Article 195(d) of the Financial Regulation:

The action will cover the following topics:

- ESA2010 and BPM6 implementation, quality improvements, and execution of the GNI control cycle;
- Update of national accounts standards and testing;
- Real estate statistics;
- Data collection in 2024 for the purpose of compiling purchasing power parities (PPPs);
- Improvement of Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICP);
- Increase of data quality in statistical business registers;

- New (experimental) statistics on trade by enterprise characteristics (TEC), new (experimental) statistics on globalisation-related aspects of international trade in goods;
- Experimental data production in International Trade in Services Statistics (ITSS), specific asymmetry cases resolution;
- Other activities in the framework of Economic and Monetary Union, globalisation and trade.

Implementation

By ESTAT

2.2. Action 2 — Award of grants without a call for proposals in the area of Internal market, innovation and digital transformation (Heading 2)

Type of applicants targeted by the award of grants without a call for proposals:

Under Article 195(d) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 and Article 10(1)(h) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690: bodies that are identified in the list referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 as national statistical institutes or other national authorities responsible for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics, after evaluation of the projects submitted.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grants awarded without a call for proposals under Article 195(d) of the Financial Regulation:

The action will cover the following topics:

- Improvement and development of European business statistics;
- Other activities in the framework of Internal market, research, innovation and digital transformation.

Implementation:

By ESTAT

2.3. Action 3 — Award of grants without a call for proposals in the area of Social dimension of Europe (Heading 3)

Type of applicants targeted by the award of grants without a call for proposals:

Under Article 195(d) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 and Article 10(1)(h) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690: bodies that are identified in the list referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 as national statistical institutes or other national authorities responsible for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics, after evaluation of the projects submitted.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grants awarded without a call for proposals under Article 195(d) of the Financial Regulation:

The action will cover the following topics:

- Improvement and development of European social statistics;

- Other activities in the framework of Social dimension of Europe.

Implementation:

By ESTAT

2.4. Action 4 — Award of grants without a call for proposals in the area of Sustainable development, natural resources and environment (Heading 4)

Type of applicants targeted by the award of grants without a call for proposals:

Under Article 195(d) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 and Article 10(1)(h) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690: bodies that are identified in the list referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 as national statistical institutes or other national authorities responsible for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics, after evaluation of the projects submitted.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grants awarded without a call for proposals under Article 195(d) of the Financial Regulation:

The action will cover the following topics:

- Modernisation and methodological improvement of agricultural statistics;
- Modernisation and methodological improvement of environmental accounts, ecosystem accounting, waste statistics and statistics for the European Green Deal;
- Other activities related to sustainable development, natural resources, agriculture, energy, fisheries, climate change, transport and environment.

Implementation:

By ESTAT

2.5. Action 5 — Award of grants without a call for proposals in the area of Economic, social and territorial cohesion (Heading 5)

Type of applicants targeted by the award of grants without a call for proposals:

Under Article 195(d) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 and Article 10(1)(h) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690: bodies that are identified in the list referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 as national statistical institutes or other national authorities responsible for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics, after evaluation of the projects submitted.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grants awarded without a call for proposals under Article 195(d) of the Financial Regulation:

The action will cover the following topics:

- Data collection for City and Subnational Statistics, including in the European Union outermost regions;
- Other activities related to Economic, social and territorial cohesion.

Implementation:

By ESTAT

2.6. Action 6 — Award of grants without a call for proposals in the area of Better communication of European statistics and its values by promoting it as a trustworthy source in tackling disinformation (Heading 6)

Type of applicants targeted by the award of grants without a call for proposals:

Under Article 195(d) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 and Article 10(1)(h) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690: bodies that are identified in the list referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 as national statistical institutes or other national authorities responsible for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics, after evaluation of the projects submitted.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grants awarded without a call for proposals under Article 195(d) of the Financial Regulation:

The action will cover the following topics:

- Implementation of the European Statistics Competition (ESC) 2023/2024 at the national level and participation in the European phase of the ESC;
- Coordination of the European phase for the European Statistics Competition 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 with all participating National Statistical Institutes (NSIs);
- Other activities related to Better communication of European statistics and its values by promoting it as a trustworthy source in tackling disinformation.

Implementation:

By ESTAT

2.7. Action 7 — Award of grants without a call for proposals in the area of Reaping the benefits of data revolution and moving to trusted smart statistics (Heading 7)

Type of applicants targeted by the award of grants without a call for proposals:

Under Article 195(d) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 and Article 10(1)(h) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690: bodies that are identified in the list referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 as national statistical institutes or other national authorities responsible for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics, after evaluation of the projects submitted.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grants awarded without a call for proposals under Article 195(d) of the Financial Regulation:

The action will cover the following topics:

- Knowledge transfer and capability building on artificial intelligence and machine learning for innovation in official statistics;

- Other activities related to Reaping the benefits of data revolution and moving to trusted smart statistics.

Implementation:

By ESTAT

2.8. Action 8 — Open call for proposals in the area of Reaping the benefits of data revolution and moving to trusted smart statistics (Heading 7)

Type of applicants targeted by the open call for proposals:

Under Article 9(7) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690: (a) national statistical institutes and other national authorities as referred to in Article 5(2) of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009; (b) for actions supporting collaborative networks, as referred to in Article 15 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009, bodies operating in the field of statistics other than the authorities referred to in point (a) of this paragraph; (c) non-profit making entities (such as universities, higher education institutes, etc.), which are independent of industry, commercial and business or other conflicting interests, and have as their primary objectives and activities the promotion and support of the implementation of the European statistics Code of Practice referred to in Article 11 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 or the implementation of new methods of production of European statistics aiming at efficiency gains and quality improvements at Union level.

Description of the activities to be funded by the open call for proposals:

The action will cover the following topics:

- Knowledge transfer and capability building on trusted smart statistics (TSS);
- Other activities related to Reaping the benefits of data revolution and moving to trusted smart statistics.

Implementation:

By ESTAT

3. PROCUREMENTS

The budget reserved for procurements under this work programme is EUR 60 104 250.

3.1. Contracts

General description of what the envisaged contracts will cover:

- Provision of statistical data collection, surveys, studies, analyses, reports, publications, updated manuals, methodology, documentation handbooks, other types of support, validation of data, indicators and benchmarks; improvement/development/modernisation of data collection and processing; data analysis and improvement of data and statistical quality; development of new, modular techniques; maintenance and development of statistical infrastructure and databases;

innovative tools and sources; dissemination support and material, including electronic supports that may be interactive and infographics; implementation of quality reviews;

- Monitoring of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), support for the Green Deal through further developing the environmental accounts which are linked to the national accounts;
- Implementation of trusted smart statistics (TSS);
- Maintenance and improvement of the geographical information system;
- Methodological and IT support in developing statistics and questionnaires, and in processing data on sectoral and regional statistics; dissemination and publication of sectoral and regional statistics;
- Post-processing and analysis of the land cover and land use (LUCAS) 2022 data collection;
- EuroGroups data acquisition and testing;
- Review and legal implementation of statistical classifications;
- Development, support and maintenance of the information systems supporting the European interoperable system of statistical business registers;
- Processing, dissemination, publication, promotion and marketing of statistical information; communication with European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) countries;
- Development, maintenance, security and re-engineering of IT systems and infrastructure; IT support for statistical production, database management and development, collaboration tools; capacity building for integration and documentation of production processes; software renewal and maintenance; Business Continuity Management;
- Statistical training courses and seminars for statisticians, in Member States and in non-EU countries; support for/organisation of exchanges of officials and events for the exchange of information, methodology and innovation;
- Services related to protection of privacy and confidentiality of data and use of confidential data for research;
- Services related to the adjustment of the remuneration of officials and other staff;
- Services that support European Master in Official Statistics (EMOS) activities;
- Support to carry out information visits in Member States;
- Support/further development of international study visits to Eurostat;
- External review of the Eurostat actuarial calculations related to pensions and medical schemes; external auditor support for carrying out financial controls;
- Support for reviews in the context of priority-setting;
- Statistical technical assistance.

New framework contracts (FWCs):

- In the area of Social dimension of Europe (Heading 3)
 - Framework contract on statistical services for social statistics

Framework contract for common tasks related to the upgrading of social statistics and indicators, covering the development and implementation of methodologies, as well as data analysis and dissemination. This implementing measure refers to framework contracts for services, which aim to improve and upgrade social indicators and statistics. In particular, this includes service providers, quoted time & means, and fixed-price contracts. The framework contracts would be used as a basis for specific contracts, under the budget of Eurostat and other DGs, which provide delegated credits to Eurostat.

Duration of the framework contract: 4 years.

- In the area of Better communication of European statistics and its values by promoting it as a trustworthy source in tackling disinformation (Heading 6)

- Framework contract for user support

Network of support centres answering to requests from users on European statistics and providing training courses in the Member States.

New framework contract covering high quality support service for users of European statistics, via a network of support centres covering all languages.

Duration of the framework contract: 4 years.

- In the area of Modernising the administration

- Framework contract for IT for statistical production and standardisation

It will enable IT activities related to Information Systems for statistical production in Eurostat as well as standards for data and metadata exchange.

The aim is to launch a call for tender which will lead to the signature of framework contracts in 2023. Under these framework contracts, Eurostat could then conclude specific contracts for IT activities related to statistical production and for the standardisation of data and metadata exchange.

Duration of the framework contract: 4 years.

Implementation:

By ESTAT:

- Economic and Monetary Union, globalisation and trade (Heading 1)
- Internal market, innovation and digital transformation (Heading 2)
- Social dimension of Europe (Heading 3)
- Reaping the benefits of data revolution and moving to trusted smart statistics (Heading 7)

By ESTAT, and through type II co-delegation with DGT and SCIC:

- Sustainable development, natural resources and environment (Heading 4)
- Economic, social and territorial cohesion (Heading 5)

By ESTAT, and through type II co-delegation with OP, DGT and COMM:

- Better communication of European statistics and its values by promoting it as a trustworthy source in tackling disinformation (Heading 6)

By ESTAT, and through type II co-delegation with DGT:

- Expanded partnerships and statistical cooperation (Heading 8)

By ESTAT, and through type II co-delegation with DIGIT:

- Modernising the administration

3.2. Evaluation and reporting

General description of the contracts envisaged:

Mid-term evaluation of the SMP under an existing framework contract of DG GROW
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Implementation

DG GROW

4. ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED IN INDIRECT MANAGEMENT

The budget reserved for actions implemented in indirect management under this work programme is EUR 550 000.

4.1. Action 1 — Expanded partnerships and statistical cooperation (Heading 8)

Amount:

EUR 350 000.

Implementing entity:

Under Article 62(1)(c)(ii) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046: The international organisations of the United Nations system and OECD

This management mode was selected because these international organisations have specific expertise and logistical capabilities.
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Description:

The action will cover the following topic:
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- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperation with international organisations covering the organisation of important events or actions aimed at developing statistical capacity. |
|---|

4.2. Action 2 — Expanded partnerships and statistical cooperation (Heading 8)

Amount:

EUR 200 000.

Implementing entity:

Under Article 62(1)(c)(ii) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046: The international organisations BIS, OECD, IMF, ECB, UNSD

The SDMX standard is co-owned by Eurostat and the other international organisations mentioned above. Each organisation manages different common activities on behalf of the other Sponsors, depending on the specific expertise and logistical capabilities they have in different aspects of the SDMX standard and of the related IT infrastructure. This management mode was thus chosen to allow Eurostat to contribute financially to such common activities.

Description:

The action will cover the following topic:

- Support to the international work by the sponsor agencies for global Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX) activities.

5. TRUST FUNDS

The budget reserved for actions implemented in the form of trust funds under this work programme is EUR 250 000.

5.1. Action 1: Economic and Monetary Union, Globalisation and Trade (Heading 1)

Description:

The action will cover the procedure for System of National Accounts (SNA) update.

Implementation:

The World Bank. Trust Fund name: Global Data Facility (GDF).

Global Data Facility is established by the World Bank to strengthen the capacity of national data and statistical systems and to help overcome data deprivation across regions. It is the World Bank's primary mechanism to mobilise and coordinate donor support for data and statistics activities and – importantly – will leverage other World Bank financing.

Appropriations reserved for the trust fund

	2023	Total
Union budget	EUR 250 000	EUR 250 000

* The World Bank is gathering other donations (with an overall target of USD 200 million), with donations already confirmed from the International Monetary Fund. However, the Facility is in an early stage, so the extent of other donations is not yet known.

6. OTHER ACTIONS

6.1. Action 1: Administrative arrangements with the JRC

Amount:

EUR 620 000.

Description:

The action will cover the following topics:

- Environment statistics and sustainable development – publication of new indicators;
- IT support for ecosystem accounting.

6.2. Action 2: Service Level Agreement with the European Environmental Agency on environmental information

Amount:

EUR 500 000.

Description:

The action will cover the following topics:

- Environment statistics and sustainable development – publication of new indicators.