

DELIBERATION NO 3 OF THE STANDING SECTION OF TERRITORIAL STATISTICS

CREATION OF THE WORKING GROUP FOR THE REVISION OF THE INDICATOR SYSTEM TO MONITOR THE CONTEXT IN WHICH PUBLIC POLICIES EVOLVE

In July 2007, following the creation of a restricted session, the *Secção Permanente de Estatísticas de Base Territorial* (Standing Section of Territorial Statistics) approved the respective Report (Decision No 3), targeted at the creation of a territorial indicator system to monitor and evaluate the regional impact of public policies.

This indicator system was defined with a view to meeting, in a consistent manner, the statistical information requirements of general government entities, particularly within the scope of the national strategic reference framework 2007-2013, in liaison with other indicator systems associated with relevant supra-regional strategic and operational instruments.

From the outset, the approval of the indicator system envisaged a need for possible future changes towards a better coverage in terms of information and/or territorial breakdown of the indicators considered.

Whereas:

- The recognised usefulness of this indicator system by the members of the Standing Section of Territorial Statistics stemming to a large extent from how it was created and its monitoring, in a partnership between statistical data users and producers, and also from how it is made available via the official statistics website;
- The regular monitoring by the Section of the degree of implementation of the System by Statistics Portugal (degree of implementation of 84% as at November 2010);
- The adjustment process to the indicator system developed from the time of approval to date, notably the option of also making background information available for the construction of most indicators on the official statistics website (the system incorporates over 500 indicators);
- The persisting consolidation problems of the indicator system, in particular those identified in the latest monitoring report (DOCT/3083/CSE/BT-2) on specific difficulties in access to background information for some of the defined indicators.
- The knowledge resulting from the experience of using this indicator system over the past three years, especially within the scope for which it has been designed, i.e. in monitoring the context of implementation of the NSRF and the public policies co-financed by that framework;
- For the months to come a revision is envisaged for output and result indicators associated with the NSRF Operational Programmes, with a desirable maintenance of their links to the indicator system.

A. The Standing Section of Territorial Statistics, at its meeting on 6 December 2010, within the scope of its powers, as laid down in paragraph 2(b), Annex E, of Deliberation No 2|2008 of the Council, **decided to approve the creation of a Working Group for the revision of the indicator system to monitor the context in which public policies evolve**, approved by Decision No 3 of the Standing Section of Territorial Statistics.

I. MANDATE

1. To identify uses, notably through key documents supporting the monitoring of the NSRF and respective Operational Programmes that use the indicator system information and, where possible, to systematise the most relevant information components and sub-components of the system for each user; also, to identify the main information gaps, which hinder a more effective and efficient monitoring of the NSRF.
2. To revisit the indicators integrating the indicator system to monitor the context in which public policies evolve, approved by Decision No 3 of the Standing Section of Territorial Statistics, from the viewpoint of:
 - (a) Maintaining, and if possible increasing, its degree of focus on the NSRF strategic priorities;
 - (b) Proposing, on sufficient grounds, the elimination or replacement of selected indicators, both where it is proven that it was impossible to make them available, and to increase their degree of pertinence;
 - (c) Proposing, in those cases regarded as decisive, measures permitting to overcome existing restraints, which have prevented information of recognised relevance from being provided.

II. COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONING

1. **The Working Group shall be composed of representatives (one representative and one alternate) of the following entities:**
 - Statistics Portugal
 - NSRF Observatory
 - Regional coordination and development committees
 - Regional Statistical Office of the Azores
 - Directorate of Statistics of Madeira
 - Financial Institute for Regional Development
2. In addition to the entities mentioned in paragraph 1, **other entities integrating the Standing Section of Territorial Statistics may participate in the Group's works at specific stages, on a non-permanent basis.**

3. Representatives of entities forming the Working Group shall be appointed by a full member of the Council whenever the entity is represented, or by direct indication of each entity's responsible bodies, in the remaining cases.
4. To analyse specific aspects of its mandate, the Working Group may also invite certain entities or experts on relevant issues, the formal invitation being issued by the Vice-Chairperson of the Statistical Council, upon a proposal of the respective Chairperson.

III. WORK SCHEDULING AND PLANNING

Up to 30 June 2011 a document shall be submitted – prepared pursuant to the said mandate – for approval by the Standing Section of Territorial Statistics.

IV. TERMINATION OF THE WORKING GROUP

The Working Group shall be terminated following approval of the document referred to in III.

- B. The Standing Section of Territorial Statistics further recommends to the different entities contributing with data to this indicator system that they cooperate with Statistics Portugal as considered indispensable to meet the information needs for monitoring territorialised public policies.** This recommendation shall become particularly important to the entities responsible for the background information of indicators that are not yet available or incorporating outdated information, as described in the state of progress presented in the meeting held on 6 December 2010 (DOCT/3083/CSE/BT-2).

Lisbon, 25 January 2011

Chairman of the Section, Manuela Proença

The Executive Secretary of the Statistical Council, *Maria da Graça Fernandes Caeiro Bento*