

**DELIBERATION NO 42 OF THE CONSELHO SUPERIOR DE ESTATÍSTICA (STATISTICAL COUNCIL)
ON THE 2016 WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM**

Whereas the powers of the Statistical Council (hereinafter referred to as the Council) set forth in the current Law governing the National Statistical System (NSS).

Whereas the specific powers of the Council “To appraise the programme and budget of the statistical authorities’ statistical activity (...)”.

Whereas the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity 2013-17 approved by the Council, which set out the major objectives and challenges that govern the NSS’s activities over that period, as well as the areas that deserve particular attention, such as: (i) the enhancement of the analysis and monitoring of more relevant statistical areas for supporting decision-making, particularly those where greater insufficiencies prevail, such as social statistics; (ii) the gradual widening of the assessment of the quality of official statistics in its different dimensions; (iii) an increasingly greater utilisation of administrative and other data for statistical purposes, thus minimising the costs of statistical production and the burden on respondents; and (iv) ongoing initiatives to promote statistical literacy;

Whereas in 2016 the Council shall submit to the Government a draft revision of the NSS Law, thus complying with one of the recommendations in the previous Situation Assessment Report of the NSS;

Whereas the statistical authorities’ Statistical Activity Plans for 2016 reflect the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity 2013-17, notably as regards the high priority assigned to initiatives targeted at (i) achieving high-quality, updated and relevant statistical production; (ii) modernising the statistical process; (iii) improving the accessibility and use of official statistics (iv) actively promoting statistical literacy; (v) meeting the growing demand for statistical information at national, European and international level, as a key instrument for the timely and accurate analysis of the economic, financial, social, and environmental situation, informed decision-making by economic agents and sustained assessment of the various policies; and (vi) strengthening institutional cooperation, notably through specific projects that are relevant to the National and European Statistical System, aimed at a more intensive and efficient use of the already existing information and a greater utilisation of administrative and other data for statistical purposes, with a consequent reduction in statistical production costs and in the burden on respondents, namely citizens and enterprises;

Whereas the 2016 Work Programme of Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers falls within the scope of the European Strategic Plan for 2013-17 in the field of statistical production and of the EU Statistical Programme for 2016 forming an integral part thereof and of implementation of the European Statistical System's Vision 2020;

Whereas almost all statistical activities envisaged in Work Programme of Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers are obligations undertaken by the Portuguese State in the context of the European Union;

Whereas the Work Programmes of Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers, of the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores and of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira for 2016 comply with the commitment to quality set forth in the European Statistics Code of Practice;

Whereas Banco de Portugal's Statistical Activity Plan seeks to respond to the strategic objectives set out at the level of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB);

Whereas Banco de Portugal's Statistical Activity Plan observes the principles enshrined in the Public Commitment on European Statistics by the European System of Central Banks.;

Whereas 'Principle 3 – Adequacy of Resources' of the European Statistics Code of Practice establishes that "the resources available to statistical authorities are sufficient to meet European statistics requirements";

Pursuant to Article 3 (2) and Article 13 (g) of Law No 22/2008 of 13 May and to Article 10 (3) (c) of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, and following a favourable opinion of the Standing Session of Statistical Coordination (*Secção Permanente de Coordenação Estatística* in Portuguese), **at its plenary session on 11 April 2016 the Council decided the following:**

1. **To approve** the Council's 2016 Work Programme;
2. **To issue a favourable opinion** on the statistical authorities' statistical activity plans for 2016;
3. **To approve** the 2016 Summary of Statistical Activity for the National Statistical System, in annex to this deliberation;
4. **To approve** the release of these documents through a media information note.

In addition, **the Council recommends** that statistical authorities have the means necessary for implementing their Work Programmes for 2016, meeting the highest quality standards.

Lisbon, 11 April 2016.

The Vice-Chairman of the Statistical Council, *Alda de Caetano Carvalho*

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

2016 WORK PROGRAMME | NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

| SUMMARY |

The Work Programme of the National Statistical System (NSS) for 2016 is formed by this Summary, which highlights the main objectives and activities to be achieved in 2016, and the Work Programmes of the Statistical Council (hereinafter referred to as the Council) and the statistical authorities,¹ with greater detail in the respective areas of competence.

These Programmes present the objectives and actions that will be developed by the above entities at national and European level respectively:

- in the exercise of the powers set forth in Article 13 of Law No 22/2008 of 13 May and in accordance with the guidelines provided for by Article 3 (2) of said Law through the Council's Deliberations and Recommendations;
- of the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity for the 2013-17 period;
- of the EU statistical programme for 2016, which integrates the five-year European strategic planning for the same period;
- in the statistical work programmes approved by the European System of Central Banks (ESCB);
- in the implementation of the European Statistical System's Vision 2020;
- and also in compliance with the commitment to quality set forth in the European Statistics Code of Practice and the Public Commitment on European Statistics by the European System of Central Banks.

The Council, pursuant to its powers in overseeing and coordinating the NSS, shall continue to steer its action towards providing society in general (citizens, enterprises, general government, state authorities, and other public and private entities) high-quality, updated and relevant official statistical information. For that, its activities in 2016 will take into consideration the assessment of the effectiveness of the Council's functioning, the scarcity of human resources in most statistical authorities, progress achieved in the use of administrative data, and developments within the European Statistical System (ESS) and in the field of ESCB statistics.

¹ Statistics Portugal, Banco de Portugal, Regional Statistical Office of the Azores and Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira. Regional Statistical Office of the Azores and Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira for strictly regional statistics, and entities with powers delegated by Statistics Portugal within the scope of Law No 22/2008 of 13 May: Directorate-General for Natural Resources, Safety and Maritime Services (Ministry of Sea), Directorate-General for Energy and Geology (Ministry of Economy), Directorate-General for Education and Science Statistics (Ministry of Education and Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education), Directorate-General for Justice Policy (Ministry of Justice), and Strategy and Planning Office (Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security).

Pursuant to Article 22 of the NSS Law, the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores and the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira participate in the production of national official statistics as delegations of Statistics Portugal.

In their 2016 work programmes, statistical authorities established a series of objectives targeted at ensuring high-quality, updated and relevant statistical production, a more modern statistical process, improved accessibility and use of official statistics, and active promotion of statistical literacy.

Within the framework of rationalisation of the available resources, priority will be given to meeting the growing demand for statistical data at national, European and international level, as a key instrument for the timely and accurate analysis of the economic, financial, social, and environmental situation, informed decision-making by economic agents, and sustained assessment of the various policies.

Statistical authorities will also pay special attention to strengthening institutional cooperation, notably through specific projects relevant to the National and European Statistical System, such as initiatives aimed at a more intensive and efficient use of the already existing information and a greater utilisation of administrative and other data for statistical purposes. There is thus a reduction in statistical production costs and in the burden on respondents, namely citizens and enterprises.

A. Statistical Council's main objectives and activities for 2016

Objectives

Taking as a reference the Vision set out for the NSS in 2017, the Council's activities in 2016 will continue to focus on the ongoing implementation of the strategic guidelines set out for the next five years in the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity 2013-17, paying special attention to:

1. The enhancement of the analysis and monitoring of more relevant statistical areas for supporting decision-making, particularly those where greater insufficiencies prevail, such as social statistics;
2. The gradual widening of the assessment of the quality of official statistics in its different dimensions;
3. An increasingly greater utilisation of administrative and other data for statistical purposes, thus minimising the costs of statistical production and the burden on respondents;
4. Ongoing initiatives to promote statistical literacy.

Priority activities and areas

Hence, according to the objectives, among the Council's activities in 2016, reference should be made to the following:

- Approval of the 2012-15 Situation Assessment Report of the NSS;
- Approval of the draft revision of the Law governing the National Statistical System;
- Design of a strategy to enhance the work of the Standing Session of Social Statistics (*Secção Permanente de Estatísticas Sociais* in Portuguese) and its Working Groups, under the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity 2013-17 and social statistics-related developments at ESS level;
- Completion of the analysis process of ISCED 2011 (International Standard Classification of Education) for use in the NSS;
- Approval of concepts for statistical purposes of the 'education and training' thematic area;
- Ongoing promotion of initiatives aimed to create a Single Local Units File;

- Reflection for improvement / revision of the process for monitoring the regular implementation of statistical authorities' work programmes, namely by seeking to widen their coverage beyond compliance with deadlines: the frequency to be established will have to consider the scope of statistical production in each statistical authority and its relationship with the endowment of human resources;
- Promotion of initiatives to raise awareness of general government bodies holding administrative data to the legal obligation of releasing them for the production of official statistics;
- Reflection on and study of the feasibility of using the 'Legal Entity Identifier' (LEI) for statistical purposes;
- Intensification of initiatives to encourage compliance with Council recommendations, notably with the Ministry of Health;
- Issue of recommendations for deepening and releasing more statistics in the field of social security, particularly resorting to better utilisation of administrative data and discussion on the utilisation of administrative data on occupational diseases and temporary work, and monitoring of labour market statistics on accidents at work, the results of the Single Report, and analysis of administrative sources for the release of information on the so-called 'green receipts';
- Promotion of initiatives to foster institutional cooperation among statistical authorities and between general government bodies and statistical authorities;
- Ongoing monitoring of the use of Simplified Business Information (IES in Portuguese) and the Information System for the Portuguese Classification of Economic Activities (SICAE in Portuguese);
- Intensification of the use of communication channels to promote initiatives to increase statistical literacy;
- Organisation of events and other initiatives to promote communication with society;
- Release of historical information of the Council since 1990 (documents and operating structure), of the Council's website map, and reflection on the website's new content.

B. Main objectives of statistical authorities for 2016

Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers

Statistics Portugal's planning for 2016 has the following underlying objectives (effectiveness, efficiency and quality), as envisaged in its 2016 Assessment and Accountability Framework:

1. To maintain the repute of the 'Statistics Portugal's statistics' trade mark, as a guarantee of reliable and safe statistical information conducive to a realistic picture of Portuguese society and appropriate decision-making;
2. To increase statistical literacy within society;
3. To implement the Action Plan resulting from the recommendations of the 2014/15 Peer Review exercise;

4. To continue introducing technologically more developed and respondent-friendly collection methods, thereby ensuring time and quality gains;
5. To intensify the utilisation of administrative and geospatial data for statistical purposes, including big data;
6. To timely release high-quality official statistical information that is relevant for society in general and policy-makers in particular, allowing for the elaboration of indicators to set out and monitor objectives and establish targets.

In the Work Programme of Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers the following developments are worthy of reference:

At the level of statistical production

- Test inquiry in the context of the feasibility study for the adoption of a new census model in 2021;
- 2015/16 adult education and training survey (3rd edition);
- Participation in the process of modernisation of social statistics within the scope of Integrated European Social Statistics (IESS);
- Preparation of the 2017 Household Finance and Consumption Survey (3rd edition), in liaison with Banco de Portugal;
- Analysis of the feasibility of obtaining regional estimates for the Europe 2020 indicators on poverty or social exclusion;
- 2016 module of the labour force survey 'Young people in the labour market' and preparation of the 'Self-employment' module for 2017;
- Undertaking and release of the four-year structure of earnings survey for 2014 [Strategy and Planning Office of the Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security];
- Completion of the feasibility analysis of the use of social security administrative data for statistical purposes, in partnership with the Strategy and Planning Office of the Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security and within the framework of delegation of powers;
- Development of a new activity called public mediation systems statistics [Directorate-General for Justice Policy of the Ministry of Justice];
- 2016 farm structure survey;
- Preparation of a new edition of the social housing survey;
- Elaboration of the feasibility study for a new edition of the survey on energy consumption in households, in partnership with the Directorate-General for Energy and Geology;
- Completion of the collection of information on the 2015/16 international tourism survey;
- Release of the final results of annual national accounts for 2014 and provisional annual national accounts (nine months after the reference period);
- Compilation of the input-output symmetric matrix, with 2013 as the reference year;
- Compilation of information on capital stocks by asset and branch of activity;
- Conclusion of the study on the compilation of flash estimates of quarterly national accounts, to be released 30 days after the end of the reference quarter, under a Eurostat grant;

- Preparation and release of long series for some relevant macroeconomic indicators, compatible with the new national accounts series;
- Update of the inventory of sources and methods of quarterly accounts for national accounts base 2011;
- Release of results of qualitative business surveys based on new samples and compilation of consistent back data;
- Start of the sample change for the investment survey;
- Implementation of new recording rules, namely regarding the classification of PPPs and public utilities companies, which are at their final stage of preparation and will integrate the revised version of the Manual on Government Deficit and Debt;
- Calculation of the current value of pension system commitments for the purpose of completing table 29 of the national accounts transmission programme;
- Compilation of regional accounts' back series for the 2000-11 period according to the NUTS 2013;
- Compilation of regional accounts information according to the NUTS 2002 nomenclature, for the purpose of the NSRF context indicators;
- Implementation of a new reference year for the harmonised index of consumer prices;
- Change of the base for short-term indicators;
- Widening of the scope of the services producer price index to new activities;
- Compilation of a new edition of the Social Economy Satellite Account;
- Start of the compilation of the Tourism Satellite Account (2014);
- Development of new dimensions within the scope of the Environment Satellite Account with the inclusion of new thematic modules;
- Release of the back data series of the Health Satellite Account, in accordance with the new System of Health Accounts – 2011 edition (SHA-2011);
- Release of the Sea and Sport Satellite Accounts (2010-11);
- Implementation of the information system to support the monitoring of the context and results of 'Portugal 2020' on the official statistics website;
- Release of the Regional Development Composite Index and its respective partial indices of competitiveness, cohesion and environmental quality for NUTS 3 regions (NUTS 2013);
- New edition of the European Urban Audit Project to support the European Commission's regional and urban policy;
- Integration of administrative education data within the scope of the annual exercise of the Education Organisational Unit (UOE in Portuguese), in liaison with the Directorate-General for Education and Science Statistics of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education;
- Development and computation of support indicators for operational programmes [Directorate-General for Education and Science Statistics of the Ministry of Education.

At the level of statistical dissemination

- Release of the final results of the 2015 Income and Living Conditions Survey (EU-SILC), starting a new pattern of release five months in advance;

- Release of provisional results for the 2016 EU-SILC (in the survey year);
- Release of the 2012-15 EU-SILC longitudinal dataset;
- Release of provisional results for the 2015/16 Household Budget Survey;
- Release of analytical publications with final results for the 2014 National Health Survey;
- Release of data on resources and primary healthcare activities in 2015;
- Reissue of the publication on agri-environmental indicators;
- Release of new information on nutrient balance sheets;
- Release of the industrial producer price index by (internal and external) market;
- Assessment of the current editorial line of the analytical study *Retrato Territorial de Portugal* (Territorial Portrait of Portugal) based on the collection of user opinions;
- Release of a new series of statistical press releases on civil proceedings [Directorate-General for Justice Policy of the Ministry of Justice];
- Implementation of a project to develop the new processing and statistical release sub-systems of the Justice Statistics Information System [Directorate-General for Justice Policy of the Ministry of Justice];
- Release on the website of the Directorate-General for Energy and Geology of statistical information on energy and geological resources in line with a better definition of the review policy of the statistical information produced [Directorate-General for Energy and Geology of the Ministry of Economy];
- Completion of the process of reformulation of the indicators available on the website on education and training, and science and technology, in liaison with the Directorate-General for Education and Science Statistics of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education;
- Release of the results of the 2014 National Scientific and Technological Potential Survey on the official statistics website;
- Release of the results of the 2012-14 Community Innovation Survey on the official statistics website;
- Anticipation of release dates of results for a number of statistical operations in the field of education, namely as regards tertiary education and students with special needs [Directorate-General for Education and Science Statistics of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education];
- Systematic and georeferenced online release of the main statistical indicators on education [Directorate-General for Education and Science Statistics of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education];

At the level of:

External cooperation

- Active participation in the different European structures, particularly in the ESS, and intensification of partnerships with Member States and Eurostat, in line with the objectives set out in Vision 2020 for the ESS;
- Participation in the European Statistical System Committee and in the preparation of Portugal's position on the draft legislation under discussion in the Council's Working Party on Statistics;
- Participation in the European Statistical Forum, which brings together the ESS and the European System of Central Banks;

- Representation in Eurostat's Task Force on the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European statistics, following the 2015 revision;
- Cooperation for the development of other countries' statistical systems, particularly with Portuguese-speaking countries, both at bilateral and CPLP (Community of Portuguese-Speaking countries) level;
- SCORUS 2016 Conference – 'Indicators for territorial policies – closing data gaps by using traditional and new sources and methods', in partnership with SCORUS (Standing Committee on Regional and Urban Statistics of the International Association of Official Statistics – IAOS) and the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development).

Inter-institutional cooperation

- Intensification of dialogue with entities holding administrative data;
- Deepening of joint processes with entities with delegated powers in the context of protocols for the delegation of powers and recommendations resulting from the Peer Review exercise, fulfilling all obligations inherent in the production process of national and European official statistics;
- Deepening of cooperation with the Directorate General of Territory under the existing protocol, to meet the needs for statistical information within the scope of the 2020 Observatory of Territory and Sustainable Cities, including setting out methodologies to integrate statistical and geographical information;
- Analysis of the results of institutional cooperation between Statistics Portugal and the Directorate-General for Natural Resources, Safety and Maritime Services for obtaining socio-economic information on the fish-processing industry.

Banco de Portugal

The regular activities of Banco de Portugal's Statistical Activity Plan will continue to have the following three key objectives:

1. To compile quality statistics, based on efficient collaboration with data suppliers and observance of the strictest international standards;
2. To develop efficient management of microeconomic databases for use in statistical compilation and the provision of services to the community;
3. To promote statistical dissemination complying with all commitments assumed with the European Central Bank (ECB) and other national and international organisations, so as to fully meet user needs.

Statistical production and dissemination:

Banco de Portugal's Statistical Activity Plan for 2016 plans and schedules for the different statistical domains 32 statistical operations with daily, monthly, quarterly, and annual frequencies, associated with 498 occurrences.

Main lines of action:

- Reorganisation of quantitative data received on a regular basis by Banco de Portugal through the creation of a single contact point with data suppliers (the 'single window', or 'guichet único' in Portuguese);

- Development of integrated quantitative data collection models that ensure rationalisation of information received from reporting entities, thus contributing to a reduction in the administrative costs associated with the Bank's statistical function;
- Monitoring of the Institute of Registries and Notaries in the process of accreditation as Local Operational Unit of the Global Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) System in Portugal by supporting the development of the institutional and operational conditions for the issue, renovation and portability of the LEI codes of national entities;
- Improvement of the use of statistical data produced by the Bank, by optimising the use of the Statistical Data Warehouse, reinforcing mechanisms to crosscheck and exploit information from microdatabases and resorting to Business Intelligence solutions;
- Development of a new system for the compilation of statistics on insurance companies;
- Development of the quality of statistics on credits through participation in the development of the ECB's project on the granular database on credit (AnaCredit) and the reformulation of the Central Credit Register;
- Reinforcement of statistical communication mechanisms, targeted at anticipating the release dates for statistics and better access of economic agents to information produced and released by the Bank. In this field, the frequency of the regular publication of statistical press releases increased considerably and Banco de Portugal's statistics website project continued to be developed, mainly aimed at providing new solutions for access to the statistical content released by the Bank, which will be one of the key instruments of this strategy to improve the accessibility of statistics;
- Presidency of the European Committee of Central Balance-Sheet Data Offices (ECCBSO), which seeks to improve analysis of the non-financial corporate sector through information exchange and joint studies, based on the work of the different national central balance-sheet data offices in the collection, treatment and dissemination of economic and financial data, and namely through the maintenance of the European database, BACH (Bank for the Accounts of Companies Harmonised), managed by the BACH Working Group, also chaired by Banco de Portugal;
- Organisation of initiatives to release statistics under the responsibility of Banco de Portugal, notably seminars and training courses addressed to the main user groups, i.e. the financial system, enterprises and universities;
- Use of the network of Bank's delegations to promote sectoral and regional statistical initiatives.

Regional Statistical Office of the Azores

The 2016 planning of the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores relies on the following strategic objectives, as enshrined in the respective Assessment and Accountability Framework:

1. To optimise the operation of statistical activities in Região Autónoma dos Açores;
2. To enhance statistical literacy;
3. To pursue the modernisation and efficiency of the statistical production process;
4. To intensify the use of administrative data for statistical purposes;
5. To meet society's statistical information needs with quality and timeliness.

The Work Programme of the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores for 2016 highlights the following:

At the level of statistical production

- Implementation of or preparatory studies for 10 new regional projects: 'Long time series by island'; 'Preparatory studies for the estimate of regional GDP aggregates, from the viewpoint of demand'; 'Implementation of the coincident indicator of private consumption for Açores'; 'Study on the economic activity resulting from popular festivals'; 'Preparatory studies for the construction of a leading indicator for the regional economy'; 'General government equipment and services charter in Açores'; 'Estimate of external trade in services'; 'Estimate of inflows of goods by sea into Região Autónoma dos Açores'; Regional survey on wine production'; 'Fruit growing survey'; 'Tourism Satellite Account';
- Active participation in national projects developed by Statistics Portugal, namely in the 2015-16 International Tourism Survey.

At the level of external cooperation

- Signing of statistical cooperation agreements with regional and national entities, especially within the scope of implementation of the new regional projects;
- New projects' application for European funding, within the framework of the new 2014-20 MAC (Madeira – Azores - Canary Islands) Cooperation Programme.

At the level of dissemination

- Conclusion of the update and revamp of the Regional Statistical Office's website;
- Release of the results of the SICIR project and projects within the scope of the Region's external trade.

Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira

The planning of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira for 2016 relies on the following strategic objectives (of effectiveness, efficiency and quality):

1. To consolidate the supply of official statistics;
2. To enhance statistical literacy within the school community and society;
3. To guarantee staff training and professional development;
4. To intensify the use of technologically more developed and respondent-friendly collection methods;
5. To extend cooperation and appropriation of administrative data for statistical purposes;
6. To release timely and quality official statistics that are relevant to society;
7. To continue modernising dissemination contents, by intensifying the use of new technologies.

The 2016 Work Programme of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira highlights the following activities:

At the level of statistical production and dissemination

- To reinforce mechanisms to control and validate data collected, thus ensuring high response rates and data quality;
- To consolidate the supply of annual and infra-annual information and time series, on the website of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira, with recourse to administrative sources, where possible;
- To release timely studies and other statistical information, as deemed necessary for monitoring the Region's economic, financial, social, and environmental situation;
- To ensure compliance with the data release schedule established in the Work Programme of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira;
- To promote the spatial dimension of official statistics, with recourse to the geographic referencing statistical infrastructure, in production and dissemination activities;
- To improve statistical communication and dissemination channels, to meet the needs of the different user segments;
- To promote statistical literacy with the school community and society in general.

The official statistics website of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira will continue to be the privileged means for disseminating the Region's official statistics.

At the level of quality management

- To monitor the level of satisfaction of the Regional Directorate's official statistics users and learners participating in statistical literacy sessions;
- To permanently monitor and assess the website's use as a privileged means for disseminating official statistics, identifying and deploying initiatives to continuously improve this service.

At the level of cooperation

- To intensify inter-institutional cooperation with specific regional government bodies that are simultaneously suppliers and users of statistical data, so as to utilise administrative data for statistical purposes;
- To promote cooperation and the sharing of good practices and knowledge with other statistical authorities;
- To continue to develop projects of regional interest within the scope of the 2014-20 Territorial Cooperation Programme.

C. Resources

Pursuant to the NSS Law, the financial costs of maintaining the Statistical Council are borne by the budget of Statistics Portugal.

For the development of actions included in Work Programmes, statistical authorities will rely on the financial means envisaged in their annual budgets and on the human and material resources available for that purpose.

Financial resources

The following financial resources are allocated to the National Statistical System – functioning of the Council and statistical activity of statistical authorities:

- The **Statistical Council's** forecast operational costs for 2016 amount to €308,631 thousand (borne by the budget of Statistics Portugal);
- For **Statistics Portugal** the cost of executing the Plan will total €31.4 million;
- **Entities with powers delegated by Statistics Portugal** foresee to allocate €4.2 million to statistical activities;
- The **Regional Statistical Office of the Azores** has a forecast budget of €1.64 million;
- The **Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira** has a forecast budget of €1.1 million;

Human resources

The following human resources will be allocated to NSS activities in 2016:

- **Council Secretariat**, composed of **6 individuals**, to support the Council's activities, involving a total of around 200 participants (Council members and other Working Group participants);
- **Statistical authorities**, with **947 staff members**, for carrying out the statistical activities planned for 2016, were distributed as follows:
 - Statistics Portugal – **651²** (plus 450 service providers – interviewers)
 - Entities with delegated powers – **123**
 - Banco de Portugal – **80**
 - Regional Statistical Office of the Azores – **48**
 - Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira – **40** + 5 allocated to the Regional Directorate for Heritage and Shared Services Management.

² Includes resources allocated to the Council Secretariat's activities.