



**PEER REVIEWERS' RECOMMENDATIONS AND *THE CSO OF POLAND*
IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Peer reviewer's recommendations and improvement actions in response to the recommendations

Governance and professional independence

Recommendation 1

The Central Statistical Office should prepare and promote an amendment to the Law on Official Statistics, laying down clear provisions for conditions for the dismissal of the President of the Central Statistical Office, in line with the European Statistics Code of Practice. (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principle 1, indicator 1.8.)

Current situation:

Currently regulations of Law of 29 June 1995 on Official Statistics (Journal of Laws of 2012, item 591, as amended) do not contain provisions concerning the appeal of the President of the Central Statistical Office against the position.

Improvement actions 1.1 and 1.2 Amendment to the Law on Official Statistics: Conditions for the dismissal of the President of the CSO

The initiative amending the Law on Official Statistics will be issued, consisting in drawing up and conducting by the Central Statistical Office, through the legislative process, the draft amendment of the valid Law of 29 June 1995 on Official Statistics. The provisions governing the conditions of dismissal of the President of the Central Statistical Office against the position will be added to the draft:

- 1.1. Preparation of the new Regulation project
- 1.2. Commencement of the legislative procedure

Timeline:

- 1.1. by the end of 2016
- 1.2. 1st half of 2017

Recommendation 2

The Central Statistical Office should prepare and promote an amendment to the Law on Official Statistics, abolishing the present Article 31 of the Law or amending it to remove the current ministerial decision on patterns of statistical questionnaires. (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principle 1, indicator 1.1, Principles 8 and 10.)

Recommendation 3

The Central Statistical Office should prepare and promote an amendment to the Law on Official Statistics, abolishing the present Article 38.3 or amending it to remove the current ministerial decision on statistical dissemination. (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principle 1, indicator 1.1 and Principle 15.)

Recommendation 4

The Central Statistical Office should prepare and promote the necessary legislative amendments, authorising the Official Statistics Services to access and use microdata from administrative registers and records, including tax records, held by government departments and agencies, for the purposes of compiling official statistics. (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principle 2, Principle 8, indicators 8.7, 8.8 and 8.9, Principle 9 and Principle 10, indicator 10.3.)

Recommendation 5

The Central Statistical Office should prepare and promote the necessary legislative amendments, making it mandatory for holders of administrative records and registers, which are or may be used for statistical purposes, to inform and consult the CSO on planned changes to registers and on the design and specifications of registers in order to make them more suitable for statistical usage. (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principle 2, Principle 8, indicators 8.7, 8.8, 8.9 and Principle 10, indicator 10.3.)

Current situation:

2. Currently on the basis of Article 31 of Law of 29 June 1995 on Official Statistics the Prime Minister determines, by way of Regulation, patterns of reporting forms and explanations regarding the way of their fulfilment, as well as patterns of statistical questionnaires used in statistical surveys, agreed in the program of statistical surveys of official statistics
3. Currently on the basis of Article 38(3) of Law of 29 June 1995 on Official Statistics the Prime Minister determines, by way of Regulation, the mode and ways of announcing, sharing and disseminating output statistical information
4. The Law provides an access (Article 13) for official statistics services to administrative data sources and official registers with the view of using data from administrative data sources in statistical surveys conducted by official statistics
5. On the grounds of binding provisions of Law of 29 June 1995 on Official Statistics (Article 13) the President of the Central Statistical Office is obliged to put forward, to authorities conducting official registers, reasonable proposals concerning supplements of collected and aggregated administrative data to enable their use directly for the needs of official statistics. It is relevant to supplement regulations on liabilities of

authorities conducting official registers, so they inform the President of the Central Statistical Office on designed scope of information systems for public administration and official registers at the stage of their development or modernization

Improvement actions 2 – 5 Amendment to the Law on Official Statistics: removing ministerial decisions and improving access to administrative registers

Improvement actions are being implemented. The Central Statistical Office of Poland has prepared a draft amendment to Law of 29 June 1995 on Official Statistics. The legislative process is completed. The amendment to the Law was signed by the President of the Republic of Poland and published on 22 June 2015.

2-5.1 The amended Law repeals Article 31 of Law of 29 June 1995 on Official Statistics

2-5.2 The amended Law repeals provisions of Article 38(3) of Law of 29 June 1995 on Official Statistics

2-5.3 The amended Law has strengthened the entitlement of official statistics to timely and unpaid access to administrative data. Data are sent together with explanatory information regarding their content (metadata). Data are transferred in the scope, form and on the dates specified in the program of statistical surveys of official statistics

2-5.4 According to introduced provisions, the President of the Central Statistical Office is, among other things, informed on the content of operated and designed information systems for public administration, as well as official registers and he/she has the right to submit proposals concerning content of registers, so as to make it possible to use them for the needs of conducted statistical surveys

Timeline:

2-5.1: 1st January 2018 (*vacatio legis*)

2-5.2 to 2-5.4 The amendment will enter into force on 23 July 2015.

A sustainable and competent organisation

Recommendation 6

The Central Statistical Office should undertake a review of the organisation of the Official Statistics Services in order to prepare for the modernisation of business processes, increase efficiency and ensure the best use of available competences. (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principles 3 and 10.)

Current situation:

Official Statistics Services are:

- 1) Central Statistical Office, serving the central government administration authority competent for statistics, i.e. the President of the Central Statistical Office, it consists of 19 organizational entities (departments/divisions) which are divided into units (sections)
- 2) 16 regional statistical offices – one in each voivodeship, each statistical office includes, among others
 - a centre for regional surveys
 - specialized centres (there may be more than one in one office) performing specialized countrywide tasks, undertaken under works carried out for the benefit of official statistics as a whole
 - questionnaire surveys unit
- 3) Entities subordinate to the President of the Central Statistical Office:
 - Central Statistical Library
 - Centre for Statistics Research and Education
 - Statistical Computing Centre
 - Statistical Publishing Establishment

Improvement actions 6.1 and 6.2 Review of organisation

- 6.1. The review of organisation will be conducted under implementation of the conception of integrated system of statistical surveys. The conception takes into account the need for modernisation of processes related to statistical production, the need to increase their efficiency and effectiveness in resources utilization. Changes in the organization will be proposed gradually, according to the needs resulting from implementation progress of subsequent elements of the integrated model. The adjustment of the organizational structure will cover the following intermediate stages:
- a review of the organizational structure in the context of the needs of an integrated system of statistical surveys
 - verification of the concept of organizational changes
 - gradual implementation of changes.

Please see also Improvement Actions to Recommendation 11.

6.2. As regards resource management, it is planned to use the experience of "Processes, objectives, competencies" project conducted by public administration offices, under which practical applications of modern methods for process management and management by objectives were diagnosed. It is planned to systematically implement mapping processes and their optimization. As regards management by objectives it is planned to develop operating plans allowing monitoring of specific actions

Timeline:

6.1. Completion of the review of organization and its preparation for implementation of the process approach - until the end of the second half of 2020

6.2. Successive implementation of selected solutions prepared under "Processes, objectives, competences" project for example: improvement of the communication in CSO, preparation of the new pilot system in the field of rewarding employees depending on the achieved aims, support for works on management by means of processes – until the end of 2016

Recommendation 7

The Central Statistical Office should design and implement a salary policy and make strong efforts to increase flexibility in the use of its financial resources, especially in order to increase the salaries of staff, making the salaries more competitive with those of other government agencies. (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principle 3, indicator 3.1.)

Current situation:

Salary policy in CSO is implemented pursuant to the Law of 21 November 2008 on Civil Service as well as on the basis of the Regulation of the Prime Minister of 9 December 2009 on determination of official positions, required professional qualifications, degrees of civil servants, multipliers for salaries determination and detailed principles for determination and payment of other benefits granted to the civil servants, and the Regulation of the Council of Ministers of 2 February 2010 on principles of salaries for employees not being members of the civil service employed in government administration offices and employees of other entities. Limit of the salary fund is determined annually in the Budgetary Law.

Additionally, in Central Statistical Office salary policy is conducted on the basis of the following internal Regulations:

- "Principles of financial staffing plan in Central Statistical Office in 2015" (accepted for a given financial year) – the aforementioned document constitutes the basis for the implemented salary policy and determines in detail its assumptions. Financial staffing plan has become an indispensable element of the effective management in the office, providing flexible tool for motivating employees - through the possibility of more rational and flexible use of funds allocated for salaries.
- Internal Ordinance no. 32 of the Civil Service Director of the Central Statistical Office of 20 November 2012 on the introduction of the regulations granting cash awards for employees of the Central Statistical Office for special achievements at professional work – the

regulations determine detailed principles and procedures for granting special cash prizes both periodical and occasional.

- Principles of remuneration of employees involved in implementation of tasks for the benefit of the operating projects.
- The table of minimum multipliers on particular positions providing the basis for information concerning salaries in recruitment announcements.

The principles for salaries adopted in the Central Statistical Office may constitute a point of reference for other Official Statistics Services, however, directors of these entities are independent in conducting financial policy in the entity within their budget, including the salaries.

The Central Statistical Office applied to the Minister of Finance for granting additional financial resources for salaries for employees of official statistics, in order to reduce differences between salaries in Official Statistics Services and other state administration offices.

Improvement actions 7.1 to 7.4 Actions with regard to salary policy

- 7.1. Review of human resources based on organizational structure and descriptions of workplaces
- 7.2. Preparation of principles for employment optimization, e.g. through delegation of tasks and liquidation of non-staffed positions in order to more effectively exploit the potential of employees
- 7.3. Acquisition of financial measures from Operational Programs in the financial perspective 2014-2020 for implementation of EU projects, including salaries for members of the project teams and their trainings
- 7.4. Recurrent applications to the Minister of Finance for additional financial resources for official statistics employees' salaries

Timeline:

- 7.1. 2nd half of 2016
- 7.2. 2nd half of 2017
- 7.3. successively until the end of 2020
- 7.4. each year until the end of 1st half-year under planning budget for the next year

Quality and efficiency of data processing

Recommendation 8

The Central Statistical Office should speed up its work on quality reviews and include systematic user consultation as part of the review process. (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principle 4, indicator 4.4.)

Current situation:

The Central Statistical Office conducts quality reviews of statistical surveys on the basis of Internal Ordinance no. 35 of 28 December 2011 concerning evaluation, measurement and monitoring of quality of statistical surveys. Twelve quality reviews have been conducted up to now. Quality reviews are conducted on 6 surveys on average in annual terms.

Inclusion of users of statistical surveys results in quality evaluation is conducted during procedures of consultations of annual program of statistical surveys of official statistics and through user satisfaction survey conducted periodically.

Improvement actions 8.1 and 8.2 Increase in the number of quality reviews with participation of users

8.1. Gradual increase in the number of surveys which will be subject to quality reviews up to 10 during the year

8.2. Organisational change in conducting quality reviews in order to involve users of statistical data

Timeline:

8.1. in 2017 quality reviews will cover 8 surveys per year; in 2018: 9 surveys per year; and in 2019: 10 surveys per year will be covered by quality reviews

8.2. 2nd quarter of 2017

Recommendation 9

The Central Statistical Office should draw up and publish on its website a policy for how errors in disseminated statistics are treated, corrected and explained to users. (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principle 6, indicator 6.3.)

Current situation:

In the currently applied practice, incidental errors detected in published statistics are corrected as soon as possible. Errors noticed in publications (printed) are corrected by attached errata. In materials published on the web site of the Central Statistical Office, apart from the date of publishing information, the date of the last update is also given – double dates prove that given information or publication was corrected

Improvement actions 9.1 to 9.3 Errors correction policy

- 9.1. Preparation of the draft document describing principles for errors treatment in disseminated materials (all statistical products including databases), based on good practice used in other national statistical systems
- 9.2. Publication of the approved document on the website of the Central Statistical Office
- 9.3. The document to be disseminated as the recommendation to be used by ONAs

Timeline:

- 9.1. 1st quarter of 2016
- 9.2. and 9.3. until the end of 2nd quarter of 2016

Recommendation 10

The Central Statistical Office should draw up and publish on its website a policy for how revisions of statistical outputs are planned, implemented and announced to users in advance. (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principle 8, indicator 8.6, and Principle 12, indicator 12.3)

Current situation:

While fully recognizing the need for the policy dealing in-depth with revisions of data, we believe that the elaboration of the revision policy at the level of NSI should be preceded by the elaboration of such a policy at the ESS level. A coherent approach seems to us necessary to ensure high quality of data, in particular the comparability of the European statistics.

Currently in the national statistical system there is no coherent calendar of revisions and no documented data revision policy. Within the Central Statistical Office practice, there are clear principles concerning the scope and revision timelines in determined areas of statistical surveys. As regards the so-called major revisions (related to the change of classification or methodology) any information on timelines and scope of introduced revisions are published in proper advance on the website of the Central Statistical Office. Data users are informed on planned revisions on an ongoing basis by means of posting on the website respective notes and during press conferences of the President of the Central Statistical Office. The web site of the Central Statistical Office includes compilation presenting the applied practice - General rules for data revision policy. This document contains general information on reasons and principles of revisions of statistical data. A more detailed description applies to selected areas of statistics, among others, national accounts, business statistics, price statistics and foreign trade statistics. In methodological notes to CSO studies and publications, information is included concerning revisions and the reasons for their introduction.

Improvement actions 10.1 and 10.2 Preparation and publication of revision policy for statistical data

10.1.Preparation of the document concerning revision policy for statistical data, describing, apart from the general information, procedures of drawing up an annual revision schedule, reporting changes and ways of informing users on data revisions

10.2.Preparation of the annual schedule – calendar of revisions and its publication on the Information Portal of the Central Statistical Office

Timeline:

10.1 and 10.2. 1st half of 2016

Recommendation 11

The Central Statistical Office should speed up the implementation of the Generic Statistical Business Process Model across the statistical production processes and introduce systematic standardisation for the different stages of the production processes. (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principle 4, Principle 7 indicator 7.2 and Principle 10.)

Current situation:

In July 2012, the "Concept for Organization of Statistical Surveys", including integration of surveys and standardization of particular production processes, in accordance with GSBPM model, was accepted by the President of the Central Statistical Office. The concept describes particular phases an organization should have completed in order to reach an integrated system for statistical surveys. Please see also Improvement Actions to Recommendation 6.

Four priority issues were defined from which gradual implementation of the concept begins:

- Communication strategy with external users – action plan for 2015
- Surveys concerning users' needs – concept and survey methodology
- Appointment of analytical teams
- Integration of input data - concept and tool (a model in Statistical Meta-information System (SMS))

SMS enables standardization concerning preparation of meta-information of all statistical processes. Works are in progress concerning meta-information coherence. They include:

- standardization of definitions of terms which are used to describe variables in different survey domains
- standardization of code lists used in different surveys for encoding of variables
- connection of the code lists, used in data elaboration, with SDMX standard
- standardization of description of the course of particular production processes
- standardization of presentation description concerning survey results within the Domain Knowledge Bases

The new concept assumes the use of systems performing statistical data processing in accordance to GSBPM. All processes related to data processing are gradually standardized and transferred to platforms related to particular stages, according to GSBPM. Actions designed to expand common layer as well as the principles of re-use of generated objects are promoted.

Improvement actions 11.1 to 11.5 Speed up implementation of GSBPM model

11.1. Assessment of the implementation of the action plan in 2015 under the strategy of communication with external users

11.2. Preparation of the IT tools supporting works on gradual implementation of the system of surveys on users' needs

11.3. Successive integration of input data – verification of the model in order to integrate input data; continuation of works on description of variables in the model in SMS

11.4. Preparation of metadata standard for description of processes and collecting metadata in a single Repository of Statistical Metadata

11.5. Full implementation of the Integrated System for Statistical Surveys

Timeline:

11.1. Assessment of implementation of the action plan for 2015 – until 1st half of 2016

11.2. Gradual implementation of the users' needs survey– until 2nd half of 2018

11.3. Successive integration of input data – until 2nd half of 2018

11.4. Simplification of meta-information and gathering them in one SMS repository – continuous work until the end of 2020

This task is divided in the following intermediate milestones:

- elaboration and implementation of metadata model (in statistical metadata system) referring to validation of input data – 2nd half of 2017
- elaboration and implementation of metadata model (in statistical metadata system) referring to preparation of final data – 2nd half of 2017
- elaboration and implementation of metadata model (in statistical metadata system) referring to ex-post evaluation – 2nd half of 2018
- elaboration and implementation of metadata model (in statistical metadata system) referring to dissemination of products – 2nd half of 2019

11.5. Full implementation of the Integrated System for Statistical Surveys – 2nd half of 2020

Recommendation 12

The Central Statistical Office should implement standardised software and tools across subject matter areas and production processes, including standardised applications for data editing and imputation. (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principle 7, indicator 7.2, Principle 8, indicator 8.5, and Principle 10.)

Current situation:

Development of data processing processes takes place currently in a differentiated way, depending on processing stages and areas of activity. At the stage of data acquisition, standard software is used including, among others, Reporting Portal, CAXI type systems as well as TransGUS system used for data acquisition from administrative sources. Stage of processing includes more than 200 Survey Information Systems (SIB) which are adjusted to the needs of particular statistical surveys. Works started in 2013 are intended to standardize solutions by introducing uniform, standardized software for all SIBs. Stage of data analysis includes the use of standardized BI-class software. Data editing and imputation processes are implemented under data processing systems and will undergo standardization in subsequent development stages of those systems.

Improvement action 12 Standardization of software and tools including applications for data edition and imputation

Standardization of Survey Information Systems (SIB) is implemented at the stage of data acquisition and analysis. Standardization process will cover also the stage of data processing. Standard software will be implemented which enables integration of the existing IT systems for SIB surveys. Another standardization of processes covering data edition will consist in introducing uniform validation language to systems– using results of works currently being implemented by Eurostat under the ESS.VIP Validation project.

Timeline:

Pilot implementation of a new, standardized software for several surveys for the stage of data processing – 2nd half of 2015
Implementation of the developed standard for subsequent surveys – by the end of 2017

Dissemination

Recommendation 13

The Central Statistical Office should develop and publish on its website a forward-looking and overarching dissemination policy. This should encompass the obligation to disseminate all statistics produced and issues of equal access, timeliness, release and presentation practices. The views and requirements of different types of users should be taken into account in developing this policy as well as the decreasing need for printed publications and the implementation of newly emerging dissemination techniques. (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principle 10, indicator 10.2, and Principle 15.)

Current situation:

The legal basis defining the principles of data dissemination is the Law on Official Statistics of 29 June 1995. Provisions of this Law guarantee equal, equivalent and simultaneous access to output statistical information which should be disseminated by the entity conducting the survey. The scope of output information is, each year, described in detail in the program of statistical surveys of official statistics. Furthermore, there is a possibility to acquire data prepared to individual order on the basis of official statistics resources, while respecting the principle of statistical confidentiality. Information on principles of data dissemination from surveys carried out by services of official statistics can be found on the Information Portal of the Central Statistical Office.

The basic channel for dissemination of statistical information is the Information Portal of the Central Statistical Office. This platform allows access to various products and the databases of the Central Statistical Office:

- a base of the Central Statistical Office publications is available for users. Publications are in PDF format laid down thematically (tables are presented in Excel format)
- a tab dedicated to the media – contains necessary information (i.e. announcements, notices, news, dates of press conferences and briefings).

The Information Portal also includes information on questionnaire surveys and access to official journals.

The portal of the Central Statistical Office was designed to be easily accessible for a broad group of users, regardless of used technology, software or restrictions resulting from the disability. Through the Information Portal of the Central Statistical Office users may use, among others, the following electronic tools: Strateg (the system created by the Central Statistical Office for programming and monitoring of the development policy), Geostatistics Portal (modern solution for cartographic presentation of data acquired in national censuses and from Local Data Bank), Educational Portal making users (of different age groups) more familiar with the official statistics (conducted surveys, published results, basic statistical issues, current events related to statistical education).

Improvement action 13 Development of data dissemination policy

Preparation of the document describing general principles of statistical data dissemination and publication on the Information Portal of the Central Statistical Office. The document will contain in particular: records concerning data dissemination and the statistical confidentiality, ways and channels for dissemination of statistical information, ways of data presentation, limitation of the number of printed publications in favour of electronic distribution channels. Data users' profiles are to be taken into account by developing new tools for statistical data dissemination.

Timeline:

Preparation of the document concerning data dissemination policy and publishing thereof on the website of the Central Statistical Office – 1st half of 2016.

Recommendation 14

A single release calendar, covering all official statistics produced by the Central Statistical Office and Other National Authorities, should be developed by the Central Statistical Office and published prominently on its website. This should include the precise time and date of all statistical releases and be regularly updated during the year (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principle 6, indicator 6.5 and Principle 13, indicator 13.2.)

Current situation:

The Information Portal of the Central Statistical Office contains annual release calendars for *Communiqués and announcements of the President of the Central Statistical Office* and *News Releases* which contain a specific date of information publication.

Each year, *Editorial title - plan of the Central Statistical Office* and the *Editorial title - plan of regional statistical offices* are prepared. The date of publication is determined by the month of its release.

A Calendar of publications and statistical compilations prepared by data producers other than CSO and regional statistical offices can be found in the Public Information Bulletin of the Central Statistical Office (file *publikacje_resortowe_2015.doc*). It contains information on approximate date of publications - month or release frequency is announced.

Improvement action 14 Preparation and publication of single data release calendar including Central Statistical Office and ONAs

Common calendar for all types of output information announced by the Central Statistical Office and ONAs will be prepared and published prominently on CSO's website. The calendar on the homepage of the Information Portal of the Central Statistical Office will include accurate dates of publication of:

- Communiqués and announcements of the President of the Central Statistical Office
- News Releases (preliminary results, monitoring and information)
- publications of the Central Statistical Office
- databases (updating)
- statistical publications by ONAs

The basis for its preparation will be release plans and schedules of the Central Statistical Office and information provided by ONAs.

Timeline:

Preparation of the common release calendar draft and concept of its supply – 2nd half of 2015

Publication of common release calendar for 2017 on the Information Portal of the Central Statistical Office – until the end of 2016

Recommendation 15

The work to extend scope of the website of the Central Statistical Office to cover all official statistics produced by the National Statistical System should be speeded up for early completion. (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principle 15, indicators 15.1 and 15.2.)

Current situation:

Information Portal of the Central Statistical Office contains a number of database products, however, they do not fully reflect the scope of information resulting from the provisions of the program of statistical surveys of official statistics. This situation will be changed pursuant to a task carried out under the Official Statistics Information System project, concerning construction of the Domain Knowledge Bases. Works undergo the final stage, and information contained in Domain Knowledge Bases cover significant scope of data prepared by the Central Statistical Office. Bases will be disseminated to users at the end of June this year.

Improvement action 15 Increase in the scope of data presented on the website of the Central Statistical Office including statistics by ONAs

After dissemination of Domain Knowledge Bases at the end of June this year the scope of bases will be gradually developed. It is planned that all areas program of statistical surveys of official statistics are reflected in Domain Knowledge Bases. At the same time, data are to be updated and subsequent sets of information are to be added in order to provide users with an access to the whole range of data released under the National Statistical System.

Timeline:

Full implementation – 2nd half of 2019

Recommendation 16

The Central Statistical Office should work towards reducing the time between collection of survey data and publication of results, with precise publication times considered in planning the annual work programme and included in the release calendar. (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principle 13, indicators 13.1 and 13.3.)

Current situation:

The Central Statistical Office publishes, within very good time limits, data deriving from short-term statistics. It is desired to shorten time limits for information dissemination for other statistics, particularly for thematic analytical studies. For this purpose, successive improvement of data collection methods takes place (Reporting Portal, CAxI methods), works are underway to modernize statistical production processes data deriving from short-term statistics, products developed in the framework of the Official Statistics Information System project are gradually implemented.

Improvement actions 16.1 and 16.2 Shortening time between collection of data and publication of the results

16.1. Full implementation of products developed in the framework of the Official Statistics Information System project

16.2. Successive implementation of models in the framework of the generic process, concerning integrated system of statistical surveys. Please see also Improvement Actions to Recommendation 11.

Timeline:

16.1. 2nd half of 2019

16.2. end of 2020.

Recommendation 17

The Central Statistical Office should draw up and publish general rules and protocols for access to microdata, and implement facilities for remote access to microdata for research purposes. (European Statistics Code of Practice, Principle 15, indicator 15.4.)

Current situation:

In order to allow the research entities to conduct scientific works with the use of microdata, while respecting the statistical confidentiality, a special workplace named 'Scientist' has been opened to work in a separate and safe environment.

Currently the workplace makes it possible to use data sets from the National Agriculture Census 2010 and the National Census of Population and Housing 2011. Researchers applying for dissemination of microdata for research purposes are informed on such possibilities and on conditions of using "Scientist" workplace - it is required to submit the application with a description of research project in which data will be used, as well as acquisition of positive opinion of statisticians as regards statistical confidentiality.

Improvement actions 17.1 to 17.3 Preparation and publication of principles of access to microdata

- 17.1. Principles and conditions of use of the 'Scientist' workplace together with a standard application form will be posted on the website of the Central Statistical Office.
- 17.2. Increasing the scope of microdata ready to be disseminated in safe work environment. Our goal is to put all microdata in data warehouse so that researchers can choose themselves the data they need.
- 17.3. Activation of the remote access to data collections from computer stations located in 16 voivodeship statistical offices through the connection with safe work environment in the Central Statistical Office. Data sets once prepared will be placed in a data warehouse, which will allow their multiple use.

Timeline:

- 17.1. 2nd half- of 2015
- 17.2. This Improvement Action is divided into three stages:
 - preparation of infrastructure – June 2016
 - preparation of data processing systems – end of 2017
 - input the data into the warehouse – end 2019
- 17.3. 1st half of 2016