

Annual Report

of the Statistical Office of the SR

2010



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Introduction

The greatest assets of the Office were employees of the Office and their professional capacity in 2010, while we do not consider an employee as a cost item, but as an asset that become a capital. The office management paid a special attention to employees, their formation and development, e.g. improvement of working environment, further professional growth realized by a participation in educational events organized by the Office and educational institutions not only in domestic environment but also abroad and individual access to personnel development of employees. At the end of 2010 a part of employees left the Office because their civil service posts were dissolved on the base of saving measures of the Government of the SR that were included in the Office's budget on 2011 and on the base of realized optimization of activities performed at the Office. Regardless the departure of some long-standing and experienced employees and more difficult conditions in wage area caused by shortage of financial sources, the Office has required personnel and professional background to fulfil assigned tasks.

Stress and requirements on official European statistics and also requirements on national statistical offices from Eurostat increased hugely due to crisis of economic and financial situation last year 2010. Some new initiatives were developed such as EU 2020 Strategy, Stiglitz-Sen Report, GDP and beyond, Vision



Linia forgain

of European Statistics development on future century or project of measuring the life quality. The total increase of the volume of provided statistical data was affected mostly by a considerable stress on increase of reliability and quality of official statistics.

The Statistical Office of the SR tried to catch every which way all new trends and development tendencies, and also participation in their preparation and implementation of them into practice in national environment. This was included concretely in the amendment of the Act on State Statistics in extensive optimization of statistical processes, changes of organizational structure and preparation of transition to the cost management.

The development of the national account system in compliance with new regulations and directives of the European Union was also one of the main objectives in the field of macro-economic statistics in 2010. Last year final annual sector accounts on 2007, preliminary



on 2008 and also an estimate of 2009 based on new and adjusted data were compiled.

The field of price statistics implemented the regulation of Eurostat concerning to survey of prices of seasonal goods to the calculation of consumer price index. New quality-adjustment methodology of goods and services of consumer basket was introduced in the calculation of consumer price index.

It came to amendment of the Act on State Statistics and it meant that the Foreign Trade Department had to provide sending of reports on foreign trade by reporting units since 1.4.2010 only in electronic form in 2010.

Population and Housing Census 2011 was not only one of the priority areas of the Section of Social Statistics and Demography, but also the whole Office. Processes relating to legislation such as the *Provision on characteristics*, basic features and structure of the surveyed data and the Government regulation defining

time of census, samples of census forms, methodology of the surveyed data, preparation of automated processing were activated and suppliers were specified for electronic creation of census districts.

Based on new trends, development of labour and wage statistics made progress in integration with information systems available in external environment. Joining annual statistical report with department survey had a positive impact to a decrease of administrative burden of reporting units, an elimination of duplicities and savings of financial and capacity sources of the Office.

The year 2010 was also a year of processing the data from the first European Health Interview Survey (EHIS) and systematic production of data from different areas of social statistics viz. ESSPROS.

Family account carried out except standard data collection also data collection on expen-



ditures and incomes of households in supplemented sample of reporting units required for purposes of re-evaluation of construction of living wage. Harmonization of sample surveys in households (Sample survey in households and Survey on incomes and living conditions) continued implementing usage of so-called core variables.

Website of the Statistical Office becomes the priority form gradually in accordance with the strategic aim in the field of the statistical information dissemination. The development of internet continued satisfying the needs of users as much as possible via creation of interactive services. The content of online databases, pre-defined tables and number of electronic products was supplemented. Forms of direct communications with main users were developed and statistical education was provided. Opinions and requirements of customers were included in production of statistical products and in dissemination forms. In publication activity the Office aimed at production

of added value products, i.e. products with knowledge and visual interpretation.

Having regard to remembering the World Statistics Day that UN appointed on 20th October 2010 the Office performed many activities in order to bring mission and main activities of official statistics in different areas of society closer to the Slovak public and to present achieved results of SOSR. Open Doors Day at headquarter and in workplaces of SOSR in regional cities was one of the main activities contributed to the celebration of the World Statistics Day. This day, information on different statistical areas was provided and results of statistical work were presented for more than 1200 interested persons. Meeting with users of statistical data and information was a great asset to the Office in order to get a feedback on needs, requirements, and expectations of users and also on methods how to develop content and forms of production of statistical products and statistical information dissemination in future.









Identification of organization

Title: Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic

Acronym: SOSR

Address of headquarter: Miletičova 3, 824 67 Bratislava 26, Slovak Republic

Contact: telephone (operator) 50236 111

Internet http://www.statistics.sk/

Management: The Statistical Office is a budgetary organization, with its incomes

and expenditures being a part of the state budget of the Slovak

Republic

Main activities:

SOSR1:

- a) develops and publishes the policy of national statistics
- b) compiles the Programme of State Statistical Surveys in co-operation with ministries and state organizations
- c) defines methodology of statistical surveys and collects and processes statistical data
- d) defines methodology for maintenance of the system of national accounts and compiles national accounts

- e) sets up, releases and keeps classifications, nomenclatures and registers in co-operation with the ministries and state authori-
- f) defines the method of setting up the registers, assigns and issues identification numbers
- g) elaborates analyses of selected characteristics of the social, economic and environmental development of the SR
- h) co-operates with international bodies and organizations in introduction of standards and classifications in the field of statistics







- i) publishes the results of statistical surveys for the SR and individual geographical and administrative units, regularly informs general public about social, economic and demographic development, provides statistical information and issues statistical publications.
- j) organizes and provides project and programme preparation of processing the statistical surveys and determines the method of collection and technologies of processing the statistical data for statistical surveys conducted by the Office,
- k) manages, regulates and oversees collection and processing of statistical data at national level
- comments on methodology of production, content and structure of statistical data and statistical information aquired by ministries and state organizations in perfoming their activities,
- m) obtains and collects external statistical information for purposes of comparison the situation and development of the SR economy with foreign countries and
- n) fulfils other tasks set by the act.

A specific task of the SO SR is preparation and processing of election results to the National Council of the Slovak Republic², bodies of municipal self-governments³ and bodies of regional self-governments⁴, arrangements and processing of results from the presidential election⁵, referendum⁶ and elections to the European Parliament⁷ and Population and Housing Census⁸.

- $^{\rm 1}$ Act No. 540/2001 Coll. on State statistics in wording of later regulations
- 2 Act No. 333/2004 Coll. on elections to the Slovak National Council in wording of later regulations
- ³ Act NCSR No. 346/1990 Coll. on elections to the bodies of municipal self-governments in wording of later regulations
- ⁴ Act No. 303/2001 Coll. on elections to the bodies of regional self-governments
- ⁵ Act No. 46/1999 Coll. on presidential elections, plebiscite and its repeal
- 6 Act NCSR No. 564/1992 Coll. on referendum in wording of later regulations
- ⁷ Act No. 331/2003 Coll. on election to European Parliament in wording of the Act No. 515/2003 Coll.
- ⁸ Act No. 263/2008 Coll. on Population and Housing Census 2011 amending the Act No. 5/2004 Coll. on employment services and on amendments of some acts in wording of later regulations









We continued increasing the efficiency of the integrated management system

Last year the development of the quality management system of SOSR introduced by the standard ISO 9001:2008 continued **realizing** activities creating appropriate preconditions to increase its efficiency in order to allow managing increasing demands of customers on a range and quality of statistical products in strongly regulated environment and with limited financial sources.

This aim was fulfilled by realization of the action programme of the **Development Strategy** of SOSR to 2012, optimization of interfaces between processes focused mostly on a complex optimization of value-creation process, i.e. the whole production and statistical products dissemination. Preparing implementation of this change was finished by the end of 2010; its implementation will begin in next year.

Model of value-creation process having regard to sub-processes and activities of general statistical working model introduced in European Statistical System and also model allowing producing statistical products from data acquired from different sources was optimized within preparation of the change.

Also results and knowledge from optimization were used at the level of statistical reporting system. The optimization result was also new organizational chart (respecting optimized processed model) with decreased number of posts of SOSR.

Other action programme contributed to the realization of the mentioned aim is the cost management project and gradual introduction of controlling in SOSR. Last year realization of programme continued defining an approach to introduction of controlling in office conditions - monitoring system of objective achievement of SOSR under optimally used sources and also an approach to building its information support - managerial information system of SOSR. Information system of monitoring worked hours, i.e. a tool to make transparent the allocation of human resources (the highest item of SOSR costs) and important precondition of next functioning controlling, was introduced in a trial run. The objective of this system is to allow monitoring efficiency of performances in the field of their activity for head employees of SOSR and to direct efforts to a decrease (or elimina-







tion) of costs on non-effective (value no adding) processes.

The implementation of programmes was supported by promoting of common recognized values of SOSR, i.e. mostly those, which praise a personal responsibility of employees to achieve results of the office under optimally expended costs.

The level of the quality management system was examined by the internal audits performed in selected processes of SOSR. The audits examined the system harmonization with requirements of the standard ISO 9001:2008 aimed at fulfilment of strategic objectives of the Office and related action programmes. Proposals for improvements resulting from internal audits and also from other sources of improvements were included in the fifth Report on evaluation of the quality management system of SOSR.

The **supervisory audit** performed by the classification society **Bureau Veritas Certification** confirmed also the harmonization of the implemented quality management system

with the requirements of the ISO 9001:2008 in October 2010. The successful audit again confirmed that QMS of SOSR creates appropriate conditions for development of the Office towards higher efficiency.









What the last year brought in methodology

The strategic priority of SOSR to 2012 is a decrease of response burden for respondent and also for producer. Obtaining information on time required to fill up a statistical form is therefore a part of each statistical survey. SOSR conducted measuring on time in 2008 and starting with 2010 it will be conducted yearly. SOSR as a coordinator of the state statistical surveys will integrate to this process also ministries and state organization conducting the state statistical surveys since 2011. Basic database will be build up and gradually fill in order to measure and analyse burden of respondents in performance of reporting duty.

Evaluation of burden in terms of producer presented positive results; there was measured item burden in 2010. SOSR decreased item burden by 22,29 % in 2009 compared with 2008. Effort in optimization of statistical reporting system did not bring only a reduction of the number of items in statistical forms by 21,53 %, but also a decrease in the number of reporting units by 7,99 %. Also re-evaluation of periodicity of modules in statistical forms had a considerable share in a reduction of burden.

The long-lasting problem is responding of tradesmen, who tolerate higher burden compared with big enterprises, while they often have not an access to advanced technologies or have not specialized employees in order to carry out administrative duties. They must refer to relevant providers of services, what increase their costs. For that reason tradesmen were excluded from the population of reporting units in monthly statistical survey in trade, restaurants and accommodation in 2010. Other monthly statistical surveys on

2011 were adjusted the same way, i.e. in the sector of transport, information and communication and selected market services. SOSR reduced the same way also a range of the surveyed data and a sample in the survey *Annual report on physical persons not enrolled in the Business Register (Roč 3-01)* in 2010.

In these activities, use of mathematical and statistical methods plays an important role for production of statistical samples, data processing, modelling and integration of data from different sources. In harmonization with European-wide trend, data on non-surveyed groups of entrepreneurs will be acquired from administrative sources and on the base of statistical models.

The harmonization of national statistics within the European Statistical System is carried out by adoption of legal acts of the European Community and the European Union. SOSR on the base of these facts issued changes and amendments of the Programme of State Statistical Surveys 2009-2011 (hereafter called "Programme"). In 2011, surveys on further vocational training in enterprises (CVTS 1-99) and adult education survey (AES 1-99) will be conducted in 2011. The purpose of these surveys with five-year periodicity is to acquire information on further vocational training in terms of the enterprise education policy and draft and regulation of the lifelong education policy within the European Union. The survey Práca 6-99 Survey on labour in municipalities and municipal regions was excluded based on re-evaluation of needs of the Ministry of Interior of the SR. Periodicity of 14 surveys will decrease from monthly to quarterly in the field of price statistics.

Classification and registers

Statistical classifications and codes continued developing in compliance with international standards in 2010.

Basic methodological documents containing a general methodological part, notes and correspondence tables between the old and new classification of occupations were prepared in order to implement the revised international standard classification of occupations ISCO 08 to statistical information system. Supporting documents for this docu-

ments published in the second half of 2010 at the Office's website were papers issued by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and also conclusions and opinions adopted by the EU Member States in the relevant working group of Eurostat.

Statistical classification of occupations fully harmonized with ISCO 08 classification was issued by the Decree of SOSR No. 407/2010 Coll. for purposes of national services of employment and for other services aimed at clients

Statistical classification of the fields of study was issued by the Decree of SOSR





No 161/2010 Coll. prepared in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the SR. The annex of the decree includes a converter to international level of education according to the international classification of education ISCED 1997.

Statistical classification of buildings (the Decree No. 323/2010 Coll.), statistical code of countries (the Decree No. 377/2010 Coll.) and statistical code of central state administration bodies (the Decree No. 429/2010 Coll.) were issued by decrees of SOSR for purposes of the national statistics in the second half of 2010.

The methodological assistance was continuously provided to the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the SR in order to apply the classification of occupations within the project of *Integrated System of Type Positions* and to the Ministry of Finance of the SR in order to coordinate application of the economic classifications SK NACE Rev. 2. and CPA 2008 for tax purposes. Based on the CPA 2008 classification, the business subjects categorized tangible and intangible property and constructions for purposes defining depreciative group.

Activities of the statistical registers continued to standardize process of integration of data between European Register of Enterprises (EGR), administrator of which is Eurostat and national register managed within the system of administration of statistical registers ASIS REGIS.

In accord with the Regulation of the Commission (EC) No. 192/2009 by which is implementing the Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council (EC) No. 177/2008 establishing a common framework for business registers for statistical purposes relating to an exchange of confidential data between the Commission (Eurostat) and member states, a description of the ASIS REGIS system was prepared in terms of data structure, data flows, updated and planned functional tools required for integration with EGR, as well as a description of planned future processes of interfaces, comparisons and evaluations of data in the national system with data in EGR was prepared. The main objective of these activities is continuous integration of the national ASIS REGIS system into the system of the European electronic network of EGR.







Over 2010 the functionality of the ASIS REGIS system was extended by tools of automated input and updating of data on subjects registered in the central register of legal persons of the Ministry of Interior of the SR in order to increase the quality of key parameters of statistical register.

In March 2010 the collection and calculation of indicators on demography of enterprises with employees and indicators on demography of fast-growing enterprises under the common methodology of Eurostat and OECD was completed. The methodology of data imputation on the number of employees in small enterprises based on administrative data provided for this purpose by Datacentre was repeatedly applied to calculate indicators.





Macro-economic statistics

The **development of the national account system** was one of the main objectives of the macro-economic statistics in compliance with the new regulations and directions of the European Union in 2010 too.

Last year the final annual sector accounts for 2007, preliminary ones for 2008 and estimation of 2009 were compiled based on new and adjusted data. SOSR conducted some improvements in the whole time series relating to the implementation of rules of the national account system. Main changes related to methodological changes based on GNI mission recommendations, such as the incorporation of smuggling of alcohol and tobacco as one of the illegal activities into national accounts in whole time series and the record of costs relating to liquidation of an insurance event.

In 2010 SOSR calculated the compensation for small companies exempted from VAT for purposes of own sources flowing from VAT relied on the methodology prepared by Eurostat and in compliance with the requirement of the Ministry of Finance of the SR.

The final commodity and sector supply/use tables for 2007 were compiled at current and constant prices of the previous year. Time series 1995 – 1997 reflected changes resulting from the incorporation of smuggling of alcohol and tobacco as one of the illegal activities and the record of costs relating to liquidation of an insurance event in compliance with the annual national accounts. Based on the revised balanced tables of supply/use 2000 – 2005 and the revised quarterly sector structures for the 1st quarter of 1995 and for the 2nd quarter of 2010, time series of indicators of the produc-

tion and income method were back-casted to constant prices of the previous year and recalculation was realized by chain procedure of volume indices to reference year 2000.

Emphasis was laid on the preparation of the *Report on deficit and debt of public administration* (notification tables) in regular dates to the 1st April and to the 1st October and also on consistent meeting the deadlines of data transmission to Eurostat in valid formats of tables according to the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council of EC No. 1392/2007 of 13.11.2007 amending the Regulation of the Council (EC) No. 2223/1996 relating to the national account data transmission.

Flash GDP estimate of the main aggregates and the employment was provided regularly within 45 days once the reference quarter ended. Quarterly data were compiled fully in compliance with the ESA 95 transmission programme and regularly released within 65 days once the reference quarter ended. Data of quarterly accounts are seasonally adjusted in accordance with regulations and directions of the European Union.

In addition to above mentioned activities, the publication *Development of the GDP and its components 2005 - 2010* was issued and was provided to universities, research experts as well as for broader analytical community.

Price statistics implemented the regulation of Eurostat concerning survey on prices of seasonal goods to the calculation of consumer price index. New methodology relating to quality adjustments of goods and services in consumer basket was introduced to the cal-

70000
65000
55000
45000
35000
25000
25000
15000
1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009

■ GDP - current prices ■ GDP - constant prices of previous year ■ HDP - constant prices calculated by chain procedure of volumes

GDP 1995 - 2009 in mil. EUR

culation of consumer price index. The project relating to the experimental calculation of real estate price index and its inclusion in the calculation of HICP entered another phase in cooperation with Eurostat and also we began to transmit harmonized index of consumer prices (HICP) with constant taxes to Eurostat in monthly periodicity. Prices of production statistics began to prepare revision of weight schemes in order to calculate price indices of production statistics.

The activities of the Eurostat grant project relating to purchasing power parity (GP 01-09 PPP Production of data by 25 member states)

were realized by an increasing effort. All activities required by Eurostat were realized at the section of preparation of documents for compilation of the purchasing power parity. The most significant can be mentioned: calculation of GDP weights (volumes and prices) expressing GDP in the purchasing power parity for purposes of international comparison, price surveys of selected comparable goods, services, construction projects and investment units, surveys on wages in state administration and surveys of rental prices.

In 2010 it came to a change of the Act on state statistics and therefore the external



trade statistics provided sending of reports on foreign trade by reporting units since 1. 4. 2010 only in electronic form. This significant step preceded a campaign, in which SOSR gave notice to reporting units with reporting duty that the Act and also their duty changed. The objective of transition from reports on paper to reports in electronic form was not only to decrease burden of reporting units but also to increase the quality and to transmit data on time.

Except this task monthly data on import and export together with indices of import prices and indices of export and import prices to national accounts and to departments were also transmitted to Eurostat.

As in the previous years, amended legislation was implemented also in 2010. Changes also related to the application programme equipment to process data. Two grants dealt with adjustments, except of solver, the External Trade Department of SOSR, which methodically managed adjustments of the APV and their subsequent testing after implementation, took part in them.

7 trainings with almost 100 participants were organized to increase awareness of reporting units of the INTRASTAT-SK system in 2010. Trainings contained, except basic information on INTRASTAT-SK system, also an overview on newest changes and mostly included answers to specific questions of participants. Meetings with reporting units having problems with the data quality and data transmission on time were realized. Reporting discipline improvements were recorded in these reporting units after meetings.

Business statistics

The centre of activities in business **short-term** statistics was aimed at meeting the deadlines of the first data transmission, i.e. one of the priorities of Eurostat and the European Central Bank. The comprehensive evaluation of the compatibility with the regulation on short-term statistics showed SOSR was included in the first category of the member countries with the best level of compatibility. A special questionnaire on compilation method of the indicator on input prices in services was prepared and transmitted. SOSR also took part in an evaluation of the response burden and costs of the statistical office resulting from implementing requirements of the regulation on short-term statistics and based on data on working time required to filling up questionnaires and on data processing for reference year 2009.

The annual structural statistics compiled sets of the final indicators for 2008 and sets of the preliminary data for 2009 and transmitted them on time. The centre of activities in this area was focused on preparation of datasets in new structure of SK NACE Rev. 2 classification, as well as on implementation of requirements of new implementing regulation concerning structural statistics relating to new structure of output sets, new classification of indicators and new technical format of data transmission. Also in this area, SOSR was included in the first category of the member states with the best level of compatibility with the regulation on structural statistics. One-shoot survey on access of enterprises to finances was conducted. Output files were transmitted to Eurostat in required date. Datasets for 2008 on domestic foreign affiliates were compiled and transmitted in new classification SK NACE Rev. 2 and datasets on **non-domestic foreign affiliates** were compiled and transmitted according to the old structure of NACE in compliance with European regulations.

The activities of the **business statistics** were focused on further increase of harmonization with the European legislation, intput and output quality of the statistical system and data availability rate in databases of Eurostat and SOSR. International activities were aimed at the realization of project activities related to the implementation of new regulations and to the harmonization of classifications and codes in cooperation with Eurostat and the European Commission. Increased attention was paid to decreasing the administrative response burden in compliance with

Eurostat recommendations. Analytical works were realized and then it was decided that tradesmen in the sector of transport, selected market services, information and communication will not be addressed monthly in the calendar year 2011. A range of the surveyed indicators with monthly periodicity was re-evaluated and some of them will not be included into survey.

The highest attention in business statistics of construction, trade and services was paid to the data basis for publication system of SOSR and international organizations. Under the requirements of the regulation concerning the short-term statistics No. 1165/98, relevant indicators were transmitted to Eurostat in monthly periodicity in required range and in accord with defined timetable. During the year, recalculations of time series were prepared by SK NACE Rev. 2. in more detailed

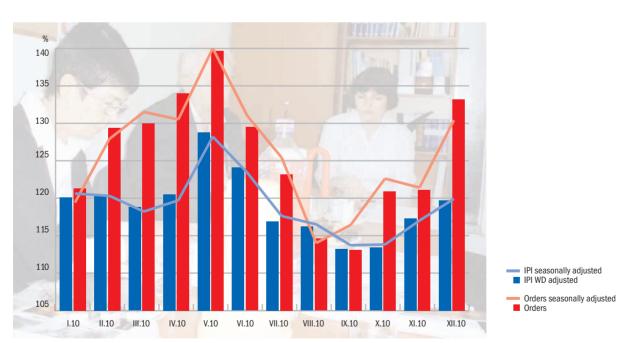


structures and the data basis published at the portal and in databases of SOSR was gradually extended. Great attention was paid to preparing the input methodology and to increasing the quality of information system outputs. Working consultations of the employees of SOSR regional workplaces and reporting units dealt with methodological problems of reporting the surveyed indicators, problems of statistical data collection realization and statistical data processing.

The centre of activities in **business surveys** was focused on the preparation of documents and realization of retrospective back-casting time series of available data basis according

to SK NACE Rev. 2 classification on monthly basis since the beginning of realization of harmonized business surveys. Required data of industry, construction, retail trade, services, investment in industry and consumer barometer were regularly monthly delivered in compliance with timetable of international projects. The data basis quality continued improving by individual consultations with respondents and by improvement of the return rate of questionnaires in order to calculate confidence indicators in individual sectors and to produce the synthetic composite economic sentiment indicator. Development tasks aimed at updating balance tools and software products, broader usage of model solutions

Development of Industrial production index and Orders



and mathematical and statistical methods to short-term prognosticating and prediction of next development including compilation of flash estimates of macro-economic indicators and innovated version of the composite leading indicator in the SR conditions with usage of survey on short-term quantitative and qualitative statistical information were performed in cooperation with research area.

One of the most important realized activities of the statistics of industry was successful finishing the Eurostat grant project aimed at a decrease of response burden and also a decrease of costs on short-term surveys in statistics of products. The number of surveyed products decreased in monthly report and as a direct connection to this also the number of reporting units of addressed product modules was reduced. It came to a decrease of response burden in short-term report also based on stopping the data survey at the level of establishment units. Statistics of industry as a responsible body for data on food safety based on the decision of the European Commission paid attention to three basic spheres: food control and monitoring, ecological agriculture and food consumption. The cooperation continued with relevant responsible bodies for relevant questions, such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the SR, State Veterinary and Food Administration of the SR, Central Control and Testing Institution of Agriculture and other organizations.

Agricultural statistics was focused mostly on conducting two very important statistical surveys in agriculture organized in all member states of the European Union. The first

related to viniculture organized in ten-year intervals and the Slovak Republic conducted this survey for the first time since the EU entry. It is very demanding and specific survey on structure and usage of areas of cultivated vineyards. The second survey was preparation of Farm Structural Census, which is one of the most comprehensive and most complex statistical surveys on activity and structure of agricultural farms. The survey relates to two basic groups of reporting units. There are business subjects with unambiguous identification that provide agricultural activity as the primary or secondary activity and households with agricultural activity without unambiguous identification.

Statistics of **environment** was aimed mostly at introduction of three priority environment business accounts that are a part of the proposal of the regulation of the European Parliament and the Council concerning environment business accounts. The pilot project was realized, the output of which are compiled data on account of material flows. Waste management statistics processed and transmitted data on statistics of waste to Eurostat based on duty resulting from the regulation. Quality report of waste statistics was prepared in cooperation with the Slovak Environmental Agency.

The field of statistics of **science**, **technology and innovations** paid attention to quality of the surveyed data on research and development and to preparation of methodological notes for tertiary sector aimed at obtaining information relating to the methodology of *Frascati manual*. Information was processed and published from surveyed data in extend-



ed range also by technological sectors. The project of survey on innovations was successfully finished by revised version of Oslo manual, results were provided to international institutions and broad public within the publication system of the Office. Quality reports of these statistics were prepared by standard criterion of quality evaluation and delivered to Eurostat. Activities in the field of updating software products to processing data in statistics of research, development and innovations, optimization of production of samples and also tasks focused on evaluation of the statistical data quality continued cooperating with relevant department workplaces of the Office and research sphere.

In statistics of **energy** the Office took part in the second phase of the worldwide consultations to the draft of the *International recommendations on energy statistics* prepared by UN Statistical Division. These recommendations will contain a description of basic terms and data sources, data processing strategies, energy balances, quality evaluations and data dissemination. Consultations on prepared changes in common international questionnaires of Eurostat / IEA / UN will continued and based on results, changes of the collection and processing system of statistical surveys in the field of energy will be prepared.

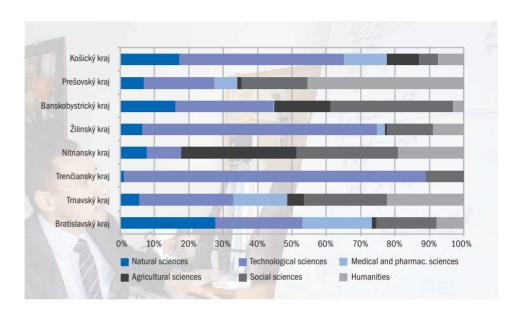
Statistical surveys in the field of **transport**, **information and communication** and subsequent data transmission to database of Eurostat, International Transport Forum, UNECE, the Danube Commission, the Rhine Commission and World Bank were realized in all areas relevant for the Slovak Republic in com-

pliance with the EU regulations. A range of the published data on transport was extended in order to better inform a public. In the field of road transport, the Office joined the grant cooperation with Eurostat. Statistical surveys on lifetime mileage were conducted by methods that SOSR realized for the first time (surveys in households, usage of data from databank of technical control stations).

Tourism statistics continued compiling tourism satellite account. Basic data are regularly published at the SOSR portal. The Office joined the international project aimed at a decrease of burden of entrepreneurs in tourism as for statistical data providing. It will be reached by direct interconnection of the data collection system of SOSR with information systems of accommodation facilities. For the first time, the Office realized the survey on active tourism, where respondents were foreign visitors in the SR.

A good cooperation with international organizations continued. Representatives of SOSR took part in international workshops of Eurostat, European Commission, OECD, International Energy Agency and UNECE. Business statistics organized two-day professional consultation for Tajikistan experts at SOSR within the twining project, it related to preparation of input data in order to calculate industrial production index. In October, two-week mission was held in the Statistical Agency of Tajikistan in Dushanbe. The objective of the mission was an analysis of experimental results of industrial production indices of Tajikistan and training focused on work with an application of the Slovak procedure to calculate indices. Expert consultations were

R&D employees in physical persons by regions and occupation in 2009



held also in the field of road transport statistics in Tajikistan. Representatives of the Statistical Agency of Tajikistan were acquainting in detail with the week survey in road transport including programme equipment during the visit in March. Working meetings aimed at giving experiences continued also by the visit of our experts in Tajikistan. Business statistics took part in the project *Programme of modernization of business and trade statistics* (MEETS) focused on usage of administrative data sources in annual business reports. In this programme, two professional consultations were held at national statistical offices of Slovenia and Hungary. A change of the

data processing for tradesmen was prepared based on acquired knowledge in cooperation with the Statistical and Mathematical Department of SOSR.



Social statistics and Demographic Research Centre

One of the most important activities of international cooperation was cooperation in order to prepare the European legislation, or its implementation relating to providing data on Population and Housing Census in 2011. In 2010 the Regulation of the Commission (EC) No. 1201/2009 of 30th November 2009 implementing the Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council (EC) No. 763/2008 on population and housing censuses regarding technical specifications of themes and their breakdowns, the Regulation of the Commission (EU) No. 519/2010 of 16th June 2010, which adopt the Programme of statistical data and metadata to Population and Housing Census specified by the Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council (EC) No. 763/2008 and the Regulation of the Commission (EU) No. 1151/2010 of 8th November 2010 implementing the Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council (EC) No. 763/2008 on population and housing censuses, regarding forms and structure of quality reports and technical format of data transmission.

Standard monitoring of the development of the population number and structure continued in **demographic statistics**. Information about the population development was provided to users; possibilities of data acquiring from administrative sources were verified.

Information required by the European legislation obtained from administrative sources was methodically harmonized to develop the system of **migration statistics**.

To prepare **Population and Housing Census 2011** (PHC 2011), activities relating to the creation of legislative conditions were realized,

the Provision of the Statistical Office specified details on characteristics, basic features and structure of surveyed data was prepared and a sample of census form and the Government regulation specified the census time were issued. Having regard to the timetable of census preparation, samples of census forms were prepared, methodology of the surveyed data was processed and harmonised with the EU requirements, electronic creation of census districts was realized by suppliers and complex preparation of automated data processing and dissemination in census was realized.

Household accounts realized a collection of data on income and expenditures of private households at extended sample of reporting units (by the government decision of the SR No. 263/2009 to the proposal to create conditions for improving the quality of the sample survey on incomes, expenditures and consumption of households). Obtained data will be used in tasks on re-evaluation of living wage construction in 2011 – 2012.

The next wave of the survey on incomes and living conditions of households (EU SILC) was realized, the survey is fully harmonized with the European Union requirements. Required information on 2009 was transmitted to Eurostat, data of survey were provided also to other external users. The survey on 2010 was conducted; the survey on 2011 has been prepared methodically and organizationally.

Development of **labour and wage statistics** moved forward to integration with information systems available in external environment. Annual survey on labour, which SOSR

Empl. in services and trade Empl. of techn., health, teachears and empl Craftsm, and qualif, workers in relat, fields Lower admin. empl. (clerks) Operation of machines and equipments Scientifical and professional intellect. empl. Professional soldiers Unskilled and non-qualif. empl. Policymakers, head and managerial empl. Qualif. workers in forestry and in relat. fields 0 500 1500 2000 2500 3000

Number of vacant positions in the SR in 2009 by employments

conducted by workplace method, was joined with the Department of *Information system* on *labour price* of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the SR. Stopping the survey affected a decrease of administrative response burden, an elimination of duplicate collection of the same indicators and a saving of financial and capacity sources of the Office.

Based on inclusion of additional information on **job vacancies** from the sources of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the SR into its calculations, the Statistical Office provides currently comprehensive information on number and structure of vacant posts and filled vacant posts in the economy of the SR in accordance with EU requirements. This statistical area was fully harmonized with regulations of the European legislation and Eurostat recommendations.

The **labour force sample survey** was extended by the additional survey on harmonization of work and family life in the 2nd quarter. Moreover preparation works began to introduce computer data collection in field phase of labour force sample survey.

In order to provide equal access of all users to statistical information on **labour market**, all publications of this area were displayed in full wording at Internet.

The most significant task of **social statistics** was the realization and ending of the first European Health Interview Survey (EHIS 2009), it will continue to release results in 2011. Data on statistics of social protection, education, culture, crime, food consumption, disability to work for disease or accident, non-profit associations, compulsory social insurance and statistical data on health were provided



systematically to relevant state institutions, international organizations and to public database. SOSR provided statistical information of financial and non-financial data in health, data on occupational diseases, work injuries and crime for 2008 to Eurostat.

Quantitative and qualitative data on social protection on 2008 were provided in compliance with the legislation and ESSPROS methodology and qualitative and quantitative data on active and passive labour market policies on 2009 were provided in compliance with the methodology of database of labour market policies.

Demographic Research Centre (DRC) dealt with 8 planned tasks assigned by SOSR based on contract in 2010. All tasks were fulfilled in close cooperation with employees of the Social and Demographic Statistics Section. The result of DRC activity was 7 publications issued directly in INFOSTAT. Five of them are analytical (Population development in districts of the SR, Life expectancy by EHIS, Migration flows in the SR, Death Causes and Education as a difference factor of reproduction behaviour) and two were focused methodologically (Calculation of experimental prognosis of population of the SR to 2050 and Calculation methodology of tables of fertility). DRC also prepared documents for publication Population Movement of the SR 2009 and documents for publishing the life tables to SOSR within planned tasks.

Additionally to planned tasks, employees of DRC were involved to deal with non-planned (current) tasks required by individual departments usually in the form of working documents, supporting documents, opinions and

evaluations. DRC continued developing the cooperation with domestic and non-domestic demographic institutions. Cooperation with the Faculty of Natural Sciences of UC was very intensive. Employees of DRC participated in writing of one foreign and one domestic science monograph, they presented ten articles in professional periodicals and wrote many reviews. The participation in conferences included 3 active presentations abroad and 8 contributions in domestic conferences and workshops. DRC has a representation in editorial board of two periodicals Slovak Statistics and Demography and Gender, the same opportunities, research. DRC was a co-organizer of the Demographic Discussion Afternoons (in cooperation with the Slovak Statistical and Demographical Society and with the Faculty of Natural Sciences of UC). Topics were aimed at current demographic problems.

Great attention was paid to communication on internet via own website as well as the website SLOVAKPOPIN, which is a result of cooperation with SOSR and which contains detailed demographic data.



Election statistics

The year 2010 was significant and difficult at the election statistics department. Regular elections to the National Council of the SR and to the bodies of municipal self-government and also referendum initiated by the petition of inhabitants were held.

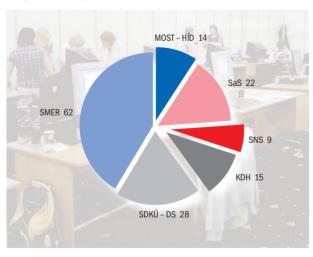
Elections to the National Council of the Slovak Republic were held in June 2010. SOSR cooperated with the Ministry of Interior of the SR to prepare processing of election results. It issued the methodology in compliance with organizational and technical provision of elections and prepared the project of automated processing of election results. Electronic register of candidates available for a public at the Office's website was prepared

from registered candidate lists. Preliminary results were available at the Office's website during the processing election results. The Office published the final election results in print form and also to the level of districts at its Office's website after a signature of the record of the Central Election Commission.

The President of the SR declared a referendum based on the petition of inhabitants on 18th September 2010. Inhabitants made decision on six questions. Preparation of the referendum processing was demanding because it clashed with preparation of processing of elections to the bodies of municipal self-government. SOSR fulfilled all tasks – issued methodology, prepared the project of auto-

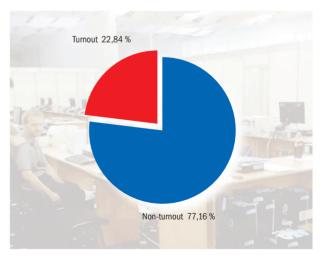


Number of mandates assigned to political parties





Participation of entitled inhabitants in referendum





mated processing of results of voting in referendum and created expert (summarizing) units in compliance with the Act No. 564/1992 Coll. on referendum in wording of later regulations and processed results of the referendum. Preliminary and final results were published at the Office's website. The Statistical Office issued also a publication with referendum results.



At the end of November, SOSR realized processing of results of the elections to the bodies of municipal self-government. To prepare election it issued methodology and prepared the project of automated processing of election results. It created expert (summarizing) units to the Central Election Commission, all district election commissions and local (city) election commissions in towns (local parts) with more than 50 districts in compliance

with the Act No. 346/1990 Coll. on election to the bodies of municipal self-government in wording of later regulations. Beyond the act, programme equipment was prepared and offered to all municipalities of the SR to process elections. Programme equipment was displayed at the Office's website. It was used by 279 municipalities, i.e. 9,57 %. Election results were continuously published at the Office's website. SOSR published the final results at Internet and issued also publications and CD with election results.







Cooperation with the Institute of Informatics and Statistics

The Institute of Informatics and Statistics (INFOSTAT) cooperates with the Statistical Office to deal with research and development tasks of national statistics yearly. The cooperation is based on the contract concluded by both organizations for a relevant year and is aimed at the priority statistical activities of the Office.

In 2010 INFOSTAT dealt with 27 research and development tasks divided to 66 partial outputs focused on:

- development and innovation of consolidated data basis and subsystems ZBER, METIS and REGIS relating to the automated statistical information system (ASIS); programme equipment in BLAISE on 2010 2011;
- ▲ methodological solutions of sectors of households and non-profit institutions for households; underground economy; unemployment data compilation; use/supply tables; problems of business statistics; selected problems of family accounts; system of sample survey on population (LFS, EU SILC, HBS, AES, ICT) for EPSS and SR requirements;

- updating and development database of; Urban and Municipal Statistics (UMS) and Urban Information System (UIS); software for VZCD, business tendency surveys, agricultural estimates and balancing energy;
- ▲ calculations THFK at quarterly level by method of commodity flows; life expectancy in health by EHIS 2009; mortality tables, marriage tables and fertility tables;
- ▲ analyses, studies and prognoses of pension funds; quarterly national accounts; GDP and employment estimates; sets of farms in the sector of households; population development in districts of the SR 2009; population development of the SR to 2009; migration flows in the SR; education as a difference factor of reproduction behaviour; accounts in social statistics.

The activity of INFOSTAT for 2010 is completely documented in a special report available at the Office's website www.statistics.sk, in part About us/Key documents/Annual Reports.







We serve our customers

Satisfying customer needs was determining in communication with users in order to meet their requirements and to fulfil strategic objectives in the field of marketing. Based on the approved **Marketing Plan of SOSR for 2010**, many activities were carried out in order to meet objectives.

The Statistical Office paid attention to required portfolio of products and its providing to users on time. Regarding domestic customers, there were especially legislative and executive bodies of state administration, mostly the National Bank of Slovakia, the Ministry of Finance of the SR, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the SR, the Ministry of Economy of the SR, the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the SR. 128 datasets were provided to these bodies together. Obtained statistical information was used for management and decision making processes.

Regarding international and intergovernmental organizations, there were mostly EUROSTAT, Organization for European Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), *United Nations Economic Commission* for Europe (UNECE), Economic and Financial Affairs Committee of the European Commission (ECFIN), International Labour Organization (ILO), and International Energy Agency (IEA). 277 products in the form of different questionnaires, datasets and tables of all statistical domains were provided them in 2010.

Marketing activities were aimed at understanding of customers and increasing their knowledge in the field of statistics and to find expectations of key customers. Individual professional departments and workplaces of SOSR in districts organized many working meetings, forums and personal discussions with interesting customers.

The most significant activity of the year was World Statistics Day, which the United Nation declared on 20th October 2010. The objective was to increase knowledge of society on the official statistics mission and fundamental values, such as public service, profesionality and integrity. Based on this event, celebration of which was held for the first time in the statistical history, SOSR prepared many interesting activities such as Open Door Day, electronic quiz on statistics at the Office's website, competition Young Statisticians of Year, Sport Day of SOSR.

Open Door Day allowed to acquaint with work and products of SOSR to interested persons directly at the headquarters and individual workplaces in regions, they could obtain information on upcoming PHC 2011, on statistical information dissemination, on retrievals from the Organization Register, they had a possibility to work with online databases of the Statistical Office and Eurostat. One of the concomitant activity was also statistical forenoons and afternoons organized by SOSR workplaces in regions for different target groups. Great assets were meetings with users to get a feedback of the Office on needs, expectations and methods how to develop contains and forms of production of statistical products and statistical information dissemination next time. On the occassion of World Statistics Day the Statistical Offfice and workplaces in regions issued presenta-

Students and teachers Enterprises associations fields Broad public and others International and external institutions State administration and municipality Financial institutions Science and research Media Public service institutions 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900

Requests met by Information Service of SOSR by groups of customers

tion and information documents aimed at different statistical topics. Open Door Day was greeted very positively by broad public.

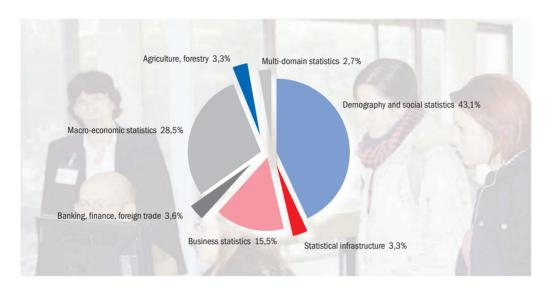
SOSR provided different statistical information via information service. In 2010 together 3 118 requests were met by information service of the headquarters, of which 2 654 were for domestic users and 464 for non-domestic users. The most requests were registered from students and teachers (28,4 %), further from the enterprises, associations, fields (21,6 %) and from broad public (17,9 %). The highest interest was in information of demography and social statistics (35 %). Requests of users were met also at the information sections of workplaces in regions, which met 3 225 requests over the year. Moreover the Office met a considerable number of requests by phone or by personal visit of customers.

Over the year, public database **SLOVSTAT** at the Office's website was intensively used by the professional and laic public. 10 743 registered users visited the public database in total and 169 503 data extractions were realized from 814 tables. Users were interested mostly in indicators from labour market, quarterly national accounts, prices and demographic statistics. The most extractions were made by students (almost one half) and by users from business sector (almost one quarter).

50 831 users visited the regional **RegDat** database last year, they realized 68 805 visits and 292,8 thousand data extractions from 280 data matrices. Compared with the previous year, the number of extractions increased almost one third. Users were interested most in statistical regional data on demography and labour market, i.e. almost 60 percentage share from ten topics.



Share of retrievals of SLOVSTAT database by topics



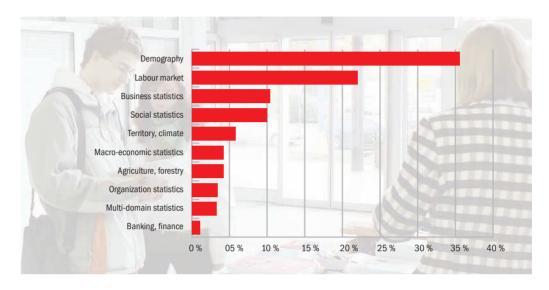
Based on the Catalogue of Publications 2010, statistical publications were continuously issued in printing and also in electronic form. The SOSR headquarters issued together 71 titles in monthly, quarterly and annual periodicity, of which 53 titles was available in electronic form at the Office's website. Increased

attention was paid to preparation of custumer-oriented publications with added value, i.e. with included analytical texts and vizualization of data (graphs, maps) to better understand released data. The Office issued presentation publications in order to apply new conceptual plans in production of statistical









Share of generated tables of RegDat by topics

products, such as Size Groups of Municipalitis in figures 2010, Development of GDP and its components 2005 – 2010 and EU SILC – Development od poverty and living conditions in the SR 2005 – 2008.

The main comprehensive and sector publications are *Statistical Yearbook of the SR 2010*,

Statistical Yearbook of regions of Slovakia 2010, yearbooks of industry, construction, foreign trade, transport, posts and telecommunications, yearbook of science and technology and quarterly Statistical Report on Basic Development Tendencies in the SR. Other interesting titles issued by the Office were









Slovak Republic in figures 2010 and Trends of social development in the SR 2010. The publication ESSPROS – Expenditures and incomes on social protection 2007 – 2008 was issued additionally to the Catalogue of Publications.

Based on united conception of the publication activity of SOSR workplaces in regions, each of them issued three publications (*Developpment of Population in... region 2009, Our region* and ... region in figures) containing basic demographic, economic and socal statistics for each region in 2010. They were issued in the same structure and design for the first time. Two titles issued additionally to the Catalogue of Publications were interesting: presentation publication in printing form *Gender equality in the SR and EU* and electronic publication *Gender equality 2010*.

In international activities the Office joined the Eurostat grant project **European Statistical Data Support (ESDS)** relating to support of users of the European statistical information. The European Statistical Data Support Centre working at the Statistical Office (Centre) gave an assistance to navigation of users at the website of Eurostat, to searching the European statistical data in databases of Eurostat, and also to answering methodological questions. Information available in the part European Statistics - ESDS at the SOSR's website was updated continuously. The propagation leaflet on Eurostat was released in order to propagate the European statistics and to provide information disseminated at its website and information on services of the Centre for users. The Office prepared presentations aimed at increasing knowledge on a free access to the European statistics disseminated at the Eurostat's website for students and academic community of the Faculty of Business Economics in Košice and Faculty of Central European Studies.







We publish periodical Slovak Statistics and Demography

The periodical **Slovak Statistics and Demography** celebrated 20th year of its publication in 2010.

On this occasion the periodical editorial board made decision to issue an especial number containing contributions of the members of the editorial board, which evaluate individual areas of the periodical in its twentieth history.

The periodical presents scientific articles and information articles in chapters, professional articles from statistics and demography in discussions and opinions submitted by employees of SOSR to the editorial board, professionals from universities and faculties of the whole Slovakia, scientific workplaces and other institutions. Also analytical studies, overviews and professional opinions of individual authors are presented in the periodical. Some historical studies from demography were again released in the periodical in 2010.

The editorial board was leaded by its new president, the general director of the Section of Social Statistics and Demography of SOSR, Mrs. Ľudmila Ivančíková in 2010. Other members of the periodical editorial board were in 2010: Pavol Baláž (SOSR), František Bernadič (SOSR), Mikuláš Cár (NBS), Ján Haluška (INFOSTAT), Ivan Janiga (STU), Milan Olexa, Rastislav Potocký (MFF UK), Eva Rublíková (EU), Marianna Štalmašková (SOSR), Boris Vaňo (INFOSTAT – DRC), Anna Volná.





International activities

The Office was involved in many international activities, mostly in activities relating to the European Statistical System (ESS). Its representatives took part regularly in meeting of many working groups of Eurostat in Luxembourg and the Council of EU in Brussels, where they expressed their opinion to submitted proposals of new statistical legal acts. In 2010 legislative process was aimed mostly at preparation of the regulation of the Council (EU) No. 679/2010 of 26th July 2010 adjusting the regulation (EC) No. 479/2009 concerning the statistical data quality in perspective of the excessive deficit procedure as well as preparation of the regulation of the European Parliament and the Council (EU) No. 1090/2010 of 24th November 2010 adjusting the Directive 2009/42/EC on statistical returns in respect of carriage of goods and passengers by sea. The other legal acts were drafted, such as proposal of the regulation on tourism statistics, environment accounts, permanent crops in agriculture, carriage of goods by road and on the system of national and regional accounts. The Commission adopted 29 implementing regulations from different statistical areas.

Additionally to activities of ESS the Office cooperated also with other **international organizations and institutions**, such as Statistical Commission of the UN, Conference on European Statisticians at the UN ECE, OECD, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WTO and its representatives actively participated in statistical events of these organizations.

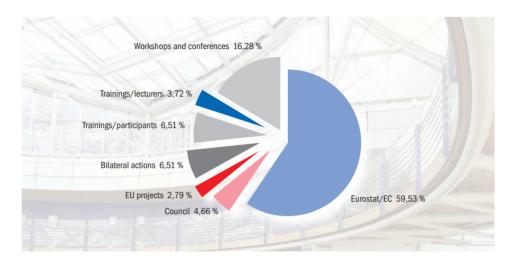
The Office intensified activities of an assistance to the third countries in 2010. The project Strengthening of the statistical system of Tajikistan continued implementing the third year, it was financed by the World Bank; experts of the Office were involved in many components of the project. Over the year, components of statistics of poverty and transport statistics were finished, while activities in components of statistics of industry and quarterly national accounts continued also in 2011. Tajikistan partners visited SOSR four times a year in order to consult statistics of industry, poverty and transport statistics and representatives of the most significant ministries of Tajikistan obtained information on forms of cooperation of the Office with the Slovak ministries and on organizational questions.







External business trips by purpose



Employees of the Office visited Tajikistan six times, i.e. 13 individual visits to assist Tajikistan colleagues directly in place. Project activities of the Slovak experts were appreciated by the head of consortium and also by the statistical institutes of receiving country.

Employees of SOSR provided an expert as-

sistance also to the Serbian Statistical Office, mostly in the field of survey on incomes and living conditions in households. In May, an employee of the Government Office of the Serbian Republic visited the Office in order to consult implementation of pre-accession assistance provided to candidate countries. An employee of the Statistical Office of Monte









Negro attended 4-month professional training relating to social statistics at SOSR.

Many delegations of external and international statistical institutions visited the Office. One of the most significant was the visit of the President of the Czech Statistical Office Iva Ritschelová shortly after her appointment to this post. Both representatives of the CZSO provided valuable information and practical experiences from the EU presidency to top and middle management of SOSR.

SOSR employees took part in 215 external business trips (EBT) in 2010, i.e. 292 individual commencements. Almost two third of these commencements related to meeting of working groups of EU institutions. Other business trips related to grant projects, bilateral cooperation or they were aimed at active participation in workshops and conferences organized by other international institutions. Employees of SOSR participated as attendants in 14 trainings abroad and 8 foreign business trips were missions, where representatives of SOSR worked as lecturers or experts of technical assistance.

Employees of the Office dealt with 35 grant projects funded by the European Union, which contributed to the implementation of new European regulations and development of the Slovak statistics last year.







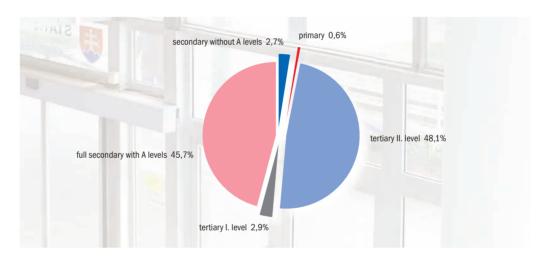
Human resources

Personal politics of SOSR was significantly affected by optimization of processes, saving measures and by a need providing personal capacities to fulfil specific tasks of the elections to the National Council of the SR, to the bodies of municipal self-government and PHC 2011. The complex system of personal work has been develop further in difficult conditions (mostly in terms of financial sources), this system influences and strengthens identifica-

tion of employees with work and institution, creates an adequate space for permanent development of knowledge base, professional growth and self-realization of employees and is based on satisfactory quantity and quality of personal information.

1 018,1 employees (the average registered recalculated number) worked at the statistical office, of which 351,2 employees at the head-

Education structure



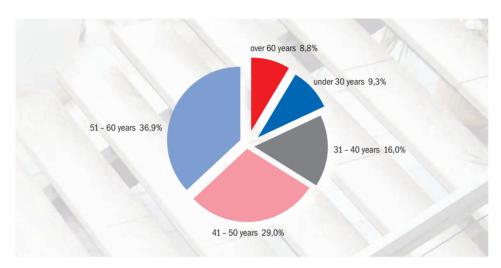








Age structure



quarter and 666,9 employees at the workplaces of SOSR in regions in 2010. **Education and age structure** of employees of the Office to the 31 December 2010 are depicted in the graphs.

79 % women and 21 % men were employed at the Office. From the total number of 130 heads, 70 % represented women and 30 % represented men.

A significant task in the field of personal management was coverage of specific tasks of Population and Housing Census by qualified human resources in 2010. 99 posts of the total planned number (1 116 posts) were created temporarily to fulfil these tasks to the 31 December 2010, 96 % of them were occupied to the end of 2010.







In 2010 a permanent pressure to maximal economical usage of budgetary resources required to take optimization and saving measures successfulness of which will be possible to check over the next years. The decision on organizational changed, which decreased the number of posts by 10 % at the Office and the organization chart of the headquarters was changed, was approved and effective from 1. 1. 2011. Due to this organization change, 71 employees with civil servant or working relation leaved the Office because of dissolving their positions (redundancy). Activities relating to saving measures and to change of organization structure (negotiations on ending civil servant / working relation, preparation of input documentation, change of codes of sections and updating of all personal databases, announcement on change of organization section to employees, temporary and permanent redeployment of employees, appointment of new head employees and others) were significantly reflected in extending of administrative activities of the personnel office.

Quality of personal information was increased by introduction of **unified electronic**

attendance system, which created a condition for successful implementation of new information system of monitoring the worked hours.

The education activities approved in the *Education Plan of Employees for 2010* were realized in the field of **education of SOSR employees**; planned events were supplemented by another workshops and trainings resulting from current requests of individual departments and employees during the year. Last year, the education of employees was aimed mostly at:

- managerial preparation and increase of professional performance of employees,
- obtaining or increasing professional knowledge and skills
- development of skills to use information and communication technologies,
- ▲ language preparation.

Following trainings were realized in managerial preparation and increase of professional performance of employees: Couching, Training of effective communications with customers, Presentation and effective public performance, Training of personnel development,









How to able to cope with problems and workshop focused on preparation and realization of optimization of processes in the Office conditions. Trainings attending by 99 head employees, personal capacities and other specialists contributed to improving the quality of managerial decision making processes and development of knowledge to react flexibly on changing internal and external environment of the Office and customer request.

Specialists in the field of statistics have a particular place in obtaining and increasing professional knowledge and skills. The Personnel Office realized the education **programme** Schola Statistica in cooperation with internal and external lecturers. It included not only training for new employees, or employees with minimal professional practice, but also professional trainings focused on selected mathematical and statistical methods used to process statistical data. Trainings were realized in the education centre of SOSR in Klatova Nová Ves or in classrooms of Infostat. 88 employees in total took part in the education programme Schola Statistica.

82 employees took part in 58 professional education events at international level. Professional statistical trainings organized within the **European Statistical Training Programme** were a part of these events. The objective of trainings was to increase required knowledge and skills in the field of the European statistics, to participate in knowledge exchange and to provide important information on the European Statistical System.

Except statistical education events, other employees of the Office took part also in profes-

sional education according to their professional orientation (e.g. legislation, management of human resources, wages, economy and operation, public procurement and others). The professional education is closely connected also with further field of education – development of knowledge to use information and communication technologies. Education in this area was mostly connected with key tasks of the Office and 922 employees completed it in 2010.

Language education was an integral part of the internal education. 280 employees in total took part in half-intensive and intensive trainings of English and French language.

6 281 employees took part totally in 595 education activities in 2010. The total costs spent on the education of employees of the Office amounted to EUR 32 049. Except standard education, self-education of employees, which largely contributed to their personnel and professional development, came into focus. 653 employees used this education form.

Library of SOSR provided its services to 2 937 readers (of which 2 141 were external visitors and 796 employees of the Office). 5 062 borrowings were registered in the library during the year. The main activity of the library is aimed at supplementing, registration and providing of library fund, to which 1 076 titles (of which 504 were publications issued by SOSR). 72 titles of daily press and periodicals were registered continuously. EUR 14 923 was spent to purchase professional literature, subscription of daily press and periodicals in financial statement.

Information sources and information and communication technologies

The Office moved on to the realization phase of the national project *Electronic services of SOSR* in the field of development of information systems. After the project plan was approved by the intermediation body of SF EU, by the Ministry of Finance of the SR, the contract on allocation of non-repayable financial contribution to the project was signed up and after successful public procurement the contract on the project realization was also signed up with a supplier.

Introduction of quality customer-oriented electronic services:

- ▲ increase of information value, availability and transparency of statistical data and information via production-oriented access,
- decrease of administrative response burden through full electronization of data collection in all forms of statistical surveys,
- electronization of processes for entering results of voting in elections and referendums.
- providing geographical presentation of statistical data.

Production of united, fully integrated information environment of SOSR in the context of information system of public administration (ISPA):

- ✓ production of transparency information portal statistics.sk, which allows united presentation of statistical data from all public sources and will be connected with the central portal of public administration (CPPA) and international data sources,
- production of functional interconnections of all information systems of statistical office in order to make possible procedural operation of organization,

- usage of basic modules of CPPA to provide electronic services,
- building of electronic interconnections with administrative data sources and information systems of international statistical organizations.

Support of conceptual view in activities relating to work with statistical data:

- ▲ introduction of standards to exchange statistical data in information system of public administration,
- ▲ introduction of module on administration of basic codes in ISPA

The period of the project realization started in August 2010 was set on 24 months.

The Office started to deal with the availability of services and related components of information and communication technologies (ICT) already in 2009. Reasons for making change were mostly an old server architecture, an insufficient providing of key ICT components and relatively high demands on ICT administration. The aim of new strategy should be the high available solution of IT services with the emphasis on redundancy of localities and components of ICT. The whole process of modernization was divided into three phases:

- 1. building of a primary Datacentre (DC I) at SOSR at Hanulova street with the possibility of the physical copy of a backup to other locality (SOSR, Miletičova 3)
- **2.** modernization of a secondary Datacentre (DC II) in the headquarters of SOSR

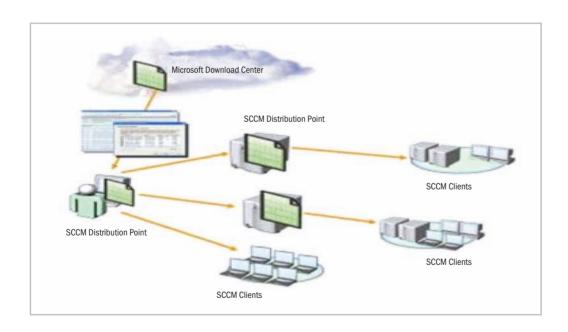


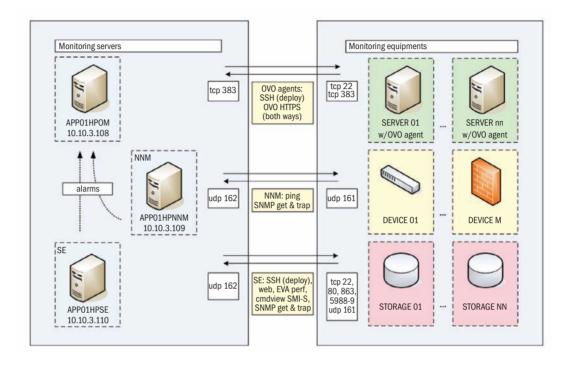
3. building of a backup Datacentre (DC III) at the workplace of SOSR in Nitra in case of breakdown, serving as a secure storage of the important data in order to provide full recovery of IS.

The first phase of the process of ICT modernization was successfully realized in 2009. Its part was also a consolidation of databases and infrastructural services. In 2010 the second phase of the modernization process continued. The modern secondary Datacentre at the level of Tier III (by Uptime Institute) with the emphasis on redundancy of key ICT components was built up from financial resources that the Office obtained. The aim of this phase was to build up a second datacentre (VC II) in locality of the SOSR headquarters at Miletičova street in order to create couple of mutually substitutable datacentres togeth-

er with the existing datacentre at Hanulova street (VC I). The strategy of such systemization of datacentres is to provide highly available infrastructure of ICT to all centralized services of automated data processing of SOSR able to resist incidents up to the level of non-planned blackout of one of the centres. Similarly as in VC I, modern virtualization technologies were implemented at each level, virtualization of servers and data storage, net components and also application servers was realized.

As in the ICT environment of SOSR did not exist any sophisticated tool providing administration of servers and working stations, appropriate solutions were searched to eliminate this shortage. A product of the Microsoft System Centre Configuration Management 2007 was introduced to administer working





stations. This tool increase productivity and efficiency of IT by limiting hand processes and by using time to projects with higher value. It maximizes usage of investments for hardware and software and promotes productivity of end users and also contributes to higher efficiency of the IT department by providing a comprehensive report of personal computers and mobile equipments by centralized methods.

New technologies required also higher demands on net technologies. It was needed to upgrade active net LAN components of the headquarters and regional workplaces for these purposes. It was also necessary to enlarge WAN capacity of net STATNET serving

to interconnection of regional workplaces of SOSR with the Office's headquarters to 10 Mbs.

The Office accessed also to enlargement of monitoring systems of ICT operation from portfolio of HP OpenView by systems OVO, NNM and SE in 2010. The IT department of SOSR fulfilled its objective to build up the monitoring cross-sectional system over important ICT components by this implementation.

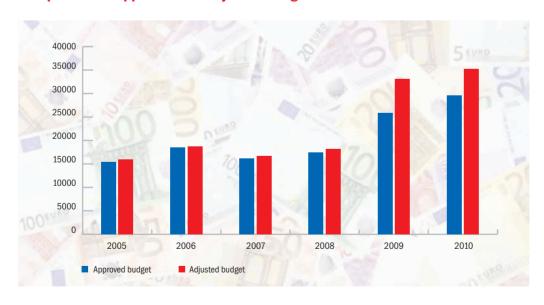
The introduction of this monitoring system should increase availability of ICT services, shortening time of service actions, increase of the level of ICT security and last but not least obtaining documents for capacity planning of maintenance and development of ICT.



Financial results

The Act No. 497/2009 Coll. on state budget approved expenditures in the amount of EUR 29 546 627 appointed for the SOSR chapter. The budget was adjusted by fourteen budgetary measures to EUR 35 195 517 in the course of 2010. Adjustments of the budget mostly related to an increase of the budget on statistical surveys on incomes, expenditures and consumption of households, to an increase of the budget by resources in the amount of EUR 7 000 000 for building up a secondary workplace of information and technological station of SOSR and by resources on covering the expenditures relating to preparation, technological provision and realization of the referendum in the amount of EUR 1 260 000. Other budgetary measures of the Ministry of Finance of the SR allowed overrunning the limit of capital expenditures by sources of the previous year in the amount of EUR 2 459 144 for PHC 2011 and transfer of resources budgeted to elections from capital expenditures to current ones. Under the Decision of the Government of the SR relating to the saving measures for the 2nd half of 2010 SOSR current expenditures were bound in the amount of EUR 315 000 in total. The Ministry of Finance of the SR bounded further EUR 1 600 000 of current expenditures budgeted to PHC and capital expenditures in the total amount of EUR 3 227 194 (EUR 3 061 275 for PHC and EUR 165 919 on supporting activities) in accordance with the paragraph 8 of the Act No. 523/2004 Coll. with the possibility to use them in next budgetary year. The last budgetary measure bounded incomes and expenditures in the amount of EUR 28 000 due to non-realized budgetary incomes approved in the act on state budget for 2010.

Comparison of approved and adjusted budget



Incomes of the chapter approved in the amount of EUR 225 388 were decreased to EUR 197 388 by the above mentioned budgetary measure. Non-realized incomes and their binding was affected by lower interest in renting of office spaces of SOSR and also by long-term decrease of incomes from sale of statistical information due to a free of charge access at internet. Real incomes amounted to EUR 1 358 550, including non-fiscal EUR 199 832 and non-budgetary from external grants EUR 1 158 718. They were provided by the European Commission in order to introduce new statistical surveys.

Adjusted budget of expenditures EUR 35 195 517 was spent in the amount of EUR 34 795 304, i.e. to 98,9 %. Lower spending related to resources budgeted to PHC caused by approval of saving measures and lower prices of goods and services reached in the process of the public procurement against previous assumptions. The special types of expenditures of the total expenditures were in the amount of EUR 17 974 898 (PHC EUR 6 869 270, the elections to the National Council of SR, the elections to bodies of municipal self-government and referendum in total EUR 4 113 574; building of a secondary workplace of information and technological station of SOSR EUR 6 992 054). Expenditures on wages and insurance represented 73,3 %, goods and services 16,4 %, current transfers 9,3 % and capital expenditures 1 % of the rest of expenditures in the amount of EUR 16 820 406 spent on the common statistical activity.

Expenditures on **wages** were realized in the amount of EUR 9 031 965 and related contributions to insurance companies in the amount of EUR 3 294 208.

Expenditures on **goods and services** in the amount of EUR 2 765 217 were largely spent on print of statistical questionnaires, statistical data processing, technical support services of information and communication technologies, travel expenditures, education of employees, expenditures relating to the statistical data collection, contribution to social fund, catering of employees. Expenditures on energies, protection of buildings, maintenance of technologies and buildings and operation of motor vehicles represented a considerable part.

Current **transfers** were spent in the amount of EUR 1 563 227, of which EUR 1 251 718 was spent on budgetary organizations INFOSTAT to deal with tasks specified in contracts. Other transfers were used on severance pay and medical benefits.

Capital expenditures in the amount of EUR 165 789 were spent on reconstruction of buildings of SOSR, purchase of software, special machines and equipment and motor vehicles.

Special types of expenditures

Population and Housing Census 2011

EUR 6 869 270 were spent on preparatory activities relating to PHC, of which EUR 2 514 116 on goods and services and EUR 3 447 526 were capital expenditures. A considerable part of expenditures on goods and services was spent on the computer technology purchase, information and communication technologies, information campaign, interior



equipment and overhead expenses. Capital expenditures were spent on purchase of software, operation machines and equipments.

Election

Together EUR 4 113 574 were spent on the elections to the NC SR, the elections to bodies of municipal self-government and referendum. Expenditures were spent mostly on overtime bonuses, bonuses and related contributions to insurance companies of employees participating in processing of results of elections and voting in referendum. Expenditures on goods and services were spent on the material provision of professional summarizing units, the computer technology purchase, technical support services and on work contracts. The other expenses in the amount of EUR 797 500 were transferred to Infostat that technically and technologically provided a preparation and processing of results of elections and referendum. Capital expenditures in the amount of EUR 429 715 were spent on the purchase of software, operation machines and equipment and communication infrastructure.

Computer centre

The Ministry of Finance of the SR increased the limit of expenditures by EUR 7 000 000 by budgetary measure in order to build up a secondary workplace of information and technological station of the statistical office. These resources were spent on purchase of software, computer technology, operation machines and equipment, reconstruction of spaces and computer technology, computer and connecting nets.

Priorities in 2010

The priority over next period will be a development of the quality management system of SOSR in order to promote increasing efficiency of its activities as larger as possible. Therefore the attention will be paid to **imple**mentation of complex optimization of valuecreation process, i.e. production and dissemination of statistical products, preparation of which was finished in 2010. The area of monitoring efficiency and gradual creation of the Office controlling will pay attention to introduction of the system on monitoring worked hours into routine operation in all departments of SOSR. It will create conditions for further increase of management efficiency by optimization of usage of human resources.

A decrease of burden and costs resulting from duty to provide statistical information will continue together with optimization of value-creation process; it is not only an ambition of the national statistics, but also of the whole European Statistical System. The priority to 2012 will be continuing optimization of statistical surveys and reduction of statistical burden of respondent and producer. New approaches to modelling time series allowing to decrease survey periodicity of some indicators will be introduced to statistical processing. New possibilities of usage of administrative data sources as a substitute of statistical surveys will be examined.

Strictly and consistent evaluation and provision of quality of statistical outputs have to be developed hand in hand with a decrease of response burden and costs on statistical surveys. It means improvement of methodology of statistical estimates to reduce range and to change structure of samples. Creation of an

application on so called calibration of weights in statistical software can be mentioned as an example of activities in this direction.

The significant task will be a cooperation in the development of the statistical information system. Except the implementation of new mathematical and statistical methods, a consolidation and harmonization of metadata as a logical part of the continuing consolidation of data basis and project works relating to the national project *Electronic services of SOSR* will continue. This activity covers structural metadata (codes and variables). The activity to 2012 is to cover data disseminated by the Office by reference metadata, but implementing of the standard on exchange of statistical information SDMX (Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange) and the European standard for reference metadata will be taken into consideration. In this connection SOSR will also participate in monitoring of national systems of metadata, which provides Eurostat in order to motivate their improving.

The priority of methodological activity will be a development and legislative issue of the national classification of occupations fully harmonized with prepared international standard classification of occupations ISCED 2011.

The very important task of the field of statistical registers will be a full integration of the national system for administration of statistical registers **ASIS REGIS** to the European system of electronic net for exchange of confidential data on the group of enterprises **EGR**. The implementation of tools developed currently by Eurostat in order to apply exchange standard SDMX will be a part of this process.



In 2011 additionally to standard activities relating to the compilation of annual accounts for 2010 and quarterly accounts (4th quarter of 2010 and first three quarters of 2011), attention of the field of national accounts will be paid to activities focused on improving the quality of data basis for compilation of national accounts. Other activities will be focused on a preparation of compilation of the order of national accounts at quarterly level to all sectors of the economy. The activities on a preparation of transformation matrices will finish in order to provide implementation of the classification SK NACE Rev. 2 to national accounts in compliance with the newly-approved implementing regulation. In 2011, Eurostat will realize dialog mission to problems of procedure of over-deficit and debt and also control mission to problems of VAT questionnaires at Slovakia and therefore it will be necessary to pay increased attention and also human capacities for careful preparation of documents for both control visits.

Price statistics will be aimed mostly at **pilot survey on consumer prices**, objective of which is to harmonize methodologies of survey on

consumer prices and price survey within the European comparable programme in 2011. We also approach the revision of weight schemes to calculate selected indices of prices of production statistics.

The key task of external trade statistics will be to increase the quality of data provided to reporting units. In order to achieve this, working meetings are planned mostly with important reporting units. Workshops for reporting units will continue because this form of obtaining information is very favoured.

The activities relating to modernization of methods will continue in **business statistics** to provide inputs and also outputs of the statistical information system in 2011. The process of optimization of statistical surveys will also continue in order to decrease response burden and in connection to the Programme of modernization of business and trade statistics MEETS, gradual implementation of new methods aimed at a decrease of response burden of reporting units by broader usage of administrative data sources, implementation







of more sophisticated methods and tools, by multiple and effective usage of surveyed data in information and publication system of the statistical office will continue.

Statistics of foreign affiliations will be focused mostly on implementation of the SK NACE Rev. 2 structure in datasets on foreign affiliations and double compilation of datasets on reference year 2009. The priority of structural business statistics will be a preparation of the quality report in compliance with the new regulation of the European Commission and improvement of the comparability with other relevant statistical areas. The activities of the environment field will be aimed at a development of tax account relating to environment, an improvement of the quality of compilation of material flow account and account of emission of pollutants in cooperation with the Slovak Hydro-meteorological Institute.

The priority of social statistics will be aimed at a preparation, realization and processing the **Population and Housing Census 2011.** The field of sample surveys will be focused on realization of an additional survey on employment of persons with long-term health problem within the common **labour force sample survey** in the 2nd quarter of 2011.

Realization of two sample surveys aimed at lifelong education, i.e. statistical **survey on continuing vocational training survey** (CVTS4) and **adults education survey** (AES) in households will be very important.

The year 2011 will be also a year of the comprehensive publication of results of the European Health Interview Survey (EHIS 2009), strengthening of usage and quality of administrative sources (mostly in the field of ESSPROS) and harmonization of sample surveys in households by an implementation and evaluation of results of projects of core variables.

The field of election statistics of SOSR will continuously realize activities relating to providing elections to **bodies of municipal self-government** in compliance with the relevant act in dates under the decision of the President of the National Council of the SR.









The field of dissemination and providing information will continue **implementing the marketing strategy of the Office.** Attention will be paid to the extension of contents and forms of products accessible via Internet.

The significant objective will also be the extension of content and range of statistical data in online databases, **products with added value** will be largely processed, i.e. products providing additional information to users in the form of analyses, graphical and map processing of statistical data and methodological notes. Professional capacity of employees, technical and technological possibilities of the Office will be better used in this way.

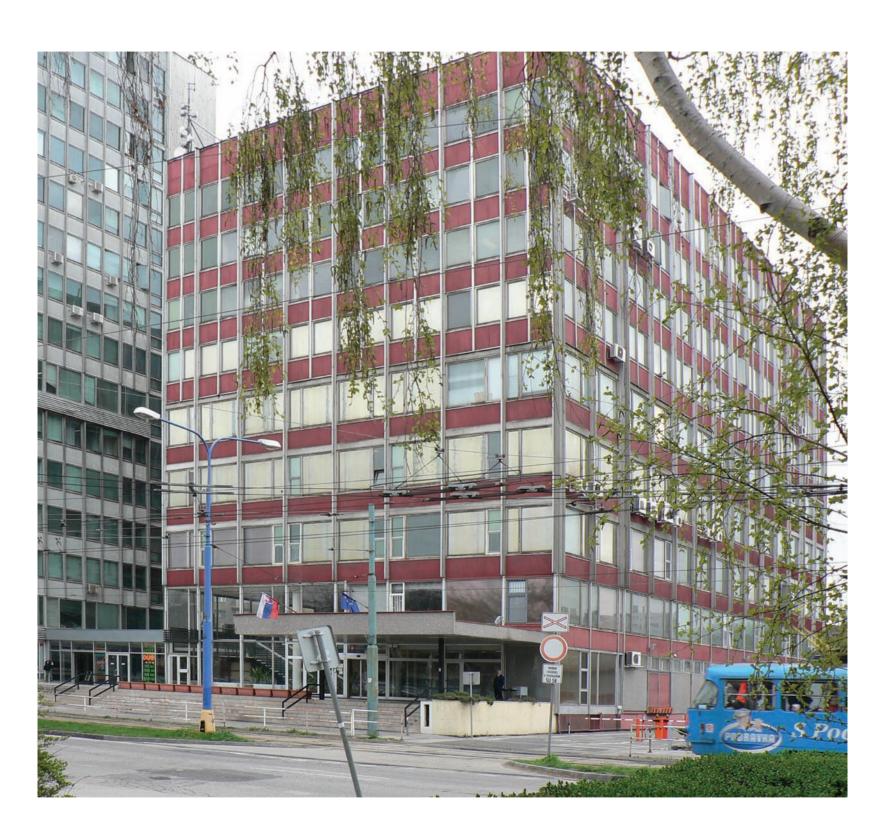
The implementation of the marketing strategic objective will require aiming at different target groups of users, intensifying communication between users and producers of statistics and developing **customer oriented statistics** on the base of acquired experiences and knowledge.

In order to meet requests of customers in statistics as better as possible, survey on satisfaction of users with products and services of SOSR will be realized over 2011. Results of the survey will be reflected on improving the activities and processes in SOSR. Based on cooperation with an external supplier and in compliance with *Development Strategy* of SOSR to 2012, survey on confidentiality of the Statistical Office of the SR will be realized.

The **management of human resources** will be affected by continuing optimization of processes at workplaces of the Office in regions, in which the Personnel Office will significantly

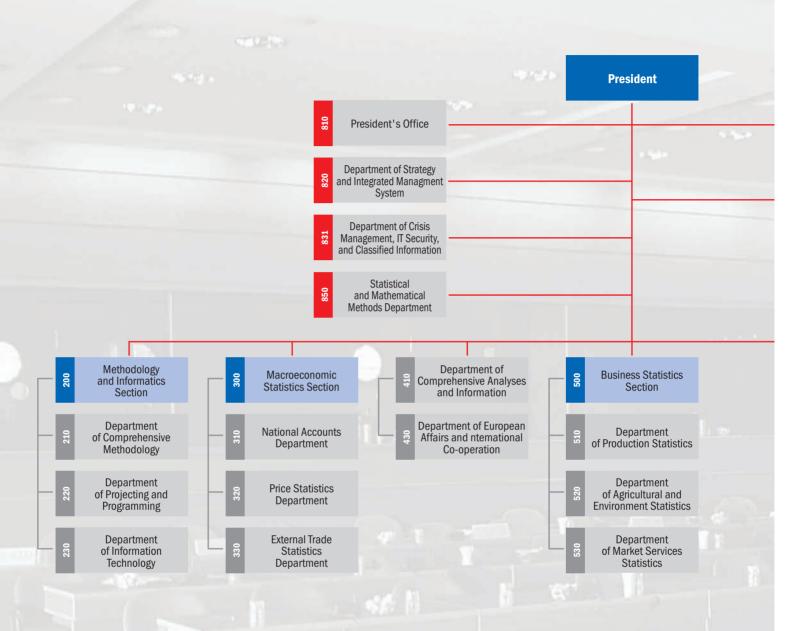
participate mostly by preparation of personnel documents and related documentation in relation to employees in 2011. In the 1st half of 2011 it will be necessary to realize more than 10 public competitions on positions of the head employees in regard to realized change of the organization chart of the Office.

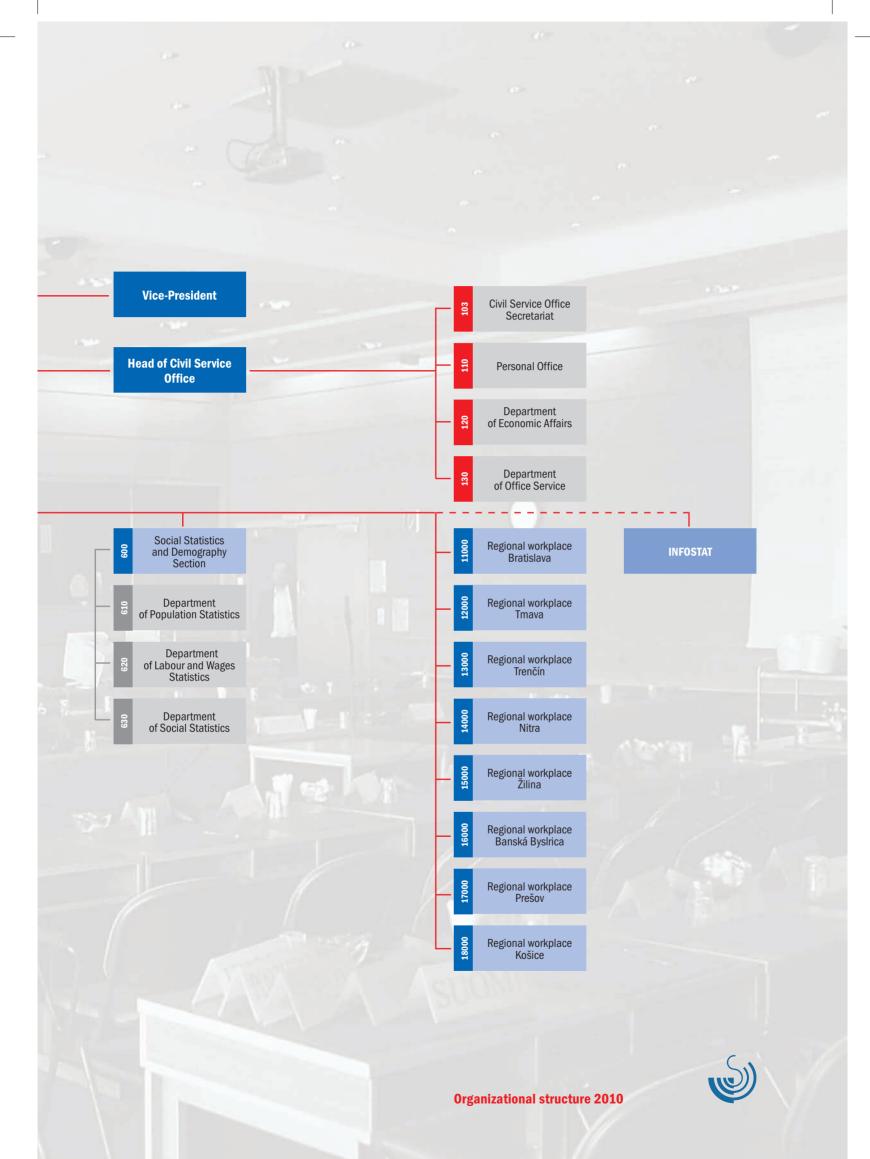
The important task, in which the Personnel Office participates, is implementation of the cost management started by monitoring of usage of worked hours at the whole Office since the 2nd half of 2011. The prepared project plan in the field of education of employees of SOSR, which should be financed from the European Social Fund, is an occasion. We suppose that about 800 employees will take part in educational activities of the project. The project will be aimed at an improvement of managerial competences, social and psychological skills of employees, professional statistical education and language preparation. Educational activities, which will be realized in the project, take into consideration educational demands relating to optimization of processes in SOSR.





Organizational structure 2010





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