

Information Concerning the Visit of the Employees of the Statistical Office in Białystok in Lithuania

From 18th till 19th April this year a delegation from the Statistical Office in Białystok consisting of:

Ewa Kamińska-Gawryluk – Director of the SO in Białystok,
Dorota Wyszowska – Manager of the Regional Research Centre of Podlaskie Voivodship,
Agata Kawałko – Manager of the Centre for the Forestry and Preservation of Nature Statistics,
Ewa Kępa – Specialist in the Statistical Elaborations Division,
Krzysztof Urban – Senior Inspector in the Administration Division

paid a visit in Lithuania. The aim of this trip was to meet the representatives of public statistics (Statistics Lithuania) and the representatives of Polish schools in the Association of Teachers of Polish Schools in Lithuania in Vilnius.

On 18th April this year the representatives of the SO in Białystok, namely Ewa Kamińska-Gawryluk (Director of the SO in Białystok) and Dorota Wyszowska (Manager of the RRCoPV) had a meeting in the Adam Mickiewicz Lower Secondary School in Vilnius with Mr. Józef Kwiatkowski – the President of the Association of Teachers of Polish Schools in Lithuania, Ms. Krystyna Dzierżyńska – the Vice-president of the same association and the Directors of Polish schools in Lithuania.



The meeting was devoted to discussing the possibility of cooperation with Polish schools within publications popularising statistical knowledge about Poland. While discussing these matters an idea of a competition on statistical knowledge of Poland for students of Polish schools in Lithuania organised in cooperation emerged. Ewa Kamińska-Gawryluk, being a representative of Polish public statistics, gave the participants of the meeting the publications, which the CSO prepared for distribution among Polish schools in Lithuania. The representatives of the Association of Teachers of Polish Schools in Lithuania also received statistical elaborations prepared by the SO in Białystok and materials promoting Poland and Podlaski area – by courtesy of the Office of the Marshal of Podlaskie Voivodship.

On the 19th April this year the entire delegation from the SO in Białystok participated in a meeting with the representatives of Statistics Lithuania. The Lithuanian party was represented by:

Mrs. Vilija Lapenienė – First Deputy Director General, Deputizing for the Director General,

Mr. Jonas Markelevičius – Deputy Director General,

Mrs. Birute Liberienė – Head of Dissemination of Statistical Information Division,

Ms. Jolita Lisauskaite – Head of Regional Statistics and Statistical Indicators Subdivision,

Mrs. Aniceta Sapoliene – Head of Agriculture and Environment Statistics Division,

Mr. Aleksandras Kaplanovskis – Chief Specialist in the Agriculture and Environment Statistics Division,

Ms. Gabija Ramsaite – Chief Specialist in the European Affairs and International Cooperation Division.



After the opening general welcome the representatives of the SO in Białystok presented the preliminary ideas and the scope of interest of the projects of the publications.

Ms. Agata Kawalko focused on the project of the publication concerning forests, which is to be published to celebrate the International Year of Forests. She discussed the preliminary project (the main idea and the scope of interest). She concentrated on the aim of the publication and the prospective data users. She also suggested the way of exchanging information and data between the offices. It was agreed that the preliminary title of the publication would be “Forests in Poland, Belarus, Lithuania and Ukraine in 2010”. The publication would take a form of a descriptive booklet, where numerical data will be illustrated with graphs and thematic photographs. The parties agreed that the publication would be bilingual – Polish and English.

The Director, Vilija Lapenienė, said that the information necessary for the publication would come from the institution dealing with forestry, which disseminates the data on forestry to the Statistics Lithuania. The Director Jonas Markelevičius stressed the importance of issuing such a publication. It was stated that the graphic design, editing, and publishing itself would be carried out by the SO in Białystok. This office would also

coordinate the work on the publication in terms of data gathering and issuing. It is predicted that the publication would take the final form in November this year.

The project of the publication concerning the Niemen Euroregion was presented by Ewa Kępa. The publication, contrary to the previous publication, is to be a publication of a wider scope of interest, including different aspects of social and economic life. Ms. Ewa Kępa presented the layout and the contents of the publication. She stressed that this is the preliminary version which can be modified in accordance with the data availability in different countries, whose parts belong to the abovementioned Euroregion. Ms. Jolita Lisauskaite noticed that there might be a problem with data comparability and a lack of certain data needed for the publication in the Lithuanian part. The representatives of Statistics Lithuania agreed to analyse the data in a very detailed way and send their comments via e-mail. Due to the wide scope of the publication and the necessity to collect data also from Belarus and Ukraine (Kaliningrad Oblast), it is expected that the publication will come out next year. Work on this publication will be coordinated by the SO in Białystok as well. The Director, Jonas Markelevicius, stated that this kind of initiative is of great importance and the publications would constitute an interesting supplement to the already existing ones.

The participants of the meeting, interested in issuing common publications, declared their will to cooperate. They agreed on exchanging the information via e-mail. It was stated that all methodological issues would also be solved this way.

The Director, Jonas Markelevicius, mentioned, in relation to the last year's meeting in November, the topic of obtaining financial support from the European Union for carrying out the common projects. It was stated that these funds could be used to finance the creation of the database concerning the Niemen Euroregion or related to Polish-Lithuanian transborder areas.

The participants to the meeting exchanged information on the National Census, as it was in progress in both countries. Moreover, the issue of the organisation of Polish and Lithuanian public statistics was also discussed. The representatives of Statistics Lithuania were particularly interested in the specialisation introduced in Polish statistical offices