

# Export of Korea's National Statistical System to Sri Lanka

- Statistics Korea (KOSTAT) and the Export-Import Bank of Korea (Korea Eximbank) reached an agreement with the Sri Lankan Government in Sri Lanka on Dec 7, 2017 on the details of a project to deploy a Korea-developed statistical system (NARA Statistical System) for the Sri Lankan Population and Housing Census scheduled in 2021 with the support of the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) of the Export-Import Bank of Korea, signing the Aide Memoire of the overview and scope of the project.
- During the seven-day visit to Sri Lanka starting Dec 5, 2017, the Korean delegates from KOSTAT and Korea Eximbank led by Cho Chang-sang, Director General for Planning and Coordination of KOSTAT worked together with their Sri Lankan counterparts from the Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs and the Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) to conclude the year-long negotiations started in Nov, 2016 on the basic framework of the project to establish the "Sri Lankan National Statistical Data Center" for the 2021 Population and Housing Census and laid the groundwork for Korea Eximbank's feasibility study on the project that will inform the final approval decision of the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) expected to be provided in 2018 upon approval and decide the scale and the scope of the project.
- Key elements of the project include the deployment of the Korea's NARA(National) Statistical System developed by KOSTAT and the system for the 2021 Population and Housing Census, the construction of the national statistical data center and the creation of the statistical data monitoring division.
- To be more specific, the project is to construct the data center for national statistics and equip the data center with the NARA Statistical System, internationally recognized Korean statistical production system, and the latest IT-enabled system for the 2021 Population and Housing Census.

- The project also aims to significantly improve and advance the Sri Lankan national statistical system, which has long been in need of innovation, by establishing the statistical data monitoring division to offer more visualized statistical data and by delivering training programs that facilitate capacity building for statistical officers.
- The project, upon approval based on the feasibility study, will be supported by EDCF loans to deploy the Korea-developed national statistical system in Sri Lanka. The project carries a great deal of significance as it will mark the world's first export of the national statistical system to a developing country, contribute to the linking of a grant-based aid program with a loan-based assistance program and lay the foundation for foreign market entry of Korean businesses.
- First of all, this project will become an important precedent of KOSTAT exporting its advanced statistical system to a developing country for the first time in the world and is expected to be recognized as a part of the 'Hallyu of Korean Statistical System', following the successful exports of government systems by other government agencies including the e-government systems of the Ministry of the Interior and Safety and the customs modernization systems of the Korea Customs Service to developing countries.
- Moreover, the project will be regarded as an exemplary practice in the history of Korea's grant aid projects because this project is closely linked to Korea's previous aid project for Sri Lanka. From 2014 to 2016 KOSTAT offered aid to DCS of Sri Lanka to help the country create a statistical database, a system for statistical services, a computer-based system for labor force survey and capacity building programs for workers, which led to the Sri Lankan government's voluntary request for the loan-based assistance project for its statistical data center in recognition of the excellence the Korea's aid project.
- In the meantime, this project is also expected to serve as an opportunity for Korean businesses with advanced statistical techniques and information technology to enter foreign markets and further expand exports through a government-led loan based assistance project while contributing to domestic job creation by adjacent businesses.

Please see Annex 1.

“Overview of ‘Sri Lanka’s National Statistical Data Center Project’”

# Annex 1

## “Overview of ‘Sri Lanka’s National Statistical Data Center Project”

### 1. Purpose

- Statistics Korea’s provision of 2.1 billion KRW in aid to Sri Lanka over the course of three years from 2014 to 2016 to support Sri Lanka’s statistical capacity building project
- Embarking on a follow-on project of the previous capacity building project, loan-based one upon request by the Department of Census and Statistics of Sri Lanka asking for Korea’s further assistance in establishing “Sri Lanka’s National Statistical Data Center”

### 2. Scope & Overview

- Name: Sri Lanka’s National Statistical Data Center (NSDC) Project
- Duration: three years
- Key Element: the deployment of the NARA statistical system, the construction of the national statistical data center, the creation of the statistical data monitoring center, the creation of the system for the 2021 Population and Housing Census, and the automated distribution system for macro data
- **NARA Statistical System and Data Center**  
The deployment of Korea’s advanced national statistical production system designed to standardize and manage a series of statistical tasks from planning to archiving and the construction of the national statistical data center
- **System for Population and Housing Census**  
The establishment of the latest IT driven system for the 2021 Population and Housing Census to enhance the accuracy and timeliness of the Census
- **Statistical Data Monitoring Division**  
The creation of the Statistical Data Monitoring division to facilitate more categorized data monitoring by region, survey, date, race or religion
- **Automated Distribution System for Macro data**  
The establishment and the promotion of the distribution system to automatically send macro data to the media and related organizations via email

### 3. Upcoming Schedule

- Korea Eximbank’s Feasibility Study in Colombo scheduled in 2018