

## **Project Summary -- Towards Common Measures for Discrimination**

**The overall objective** is to develop methods to collect representative and comparable data on ethnic discrimination. Existing methods of describing and measuring discrimination have several disadvantages – they tend not to be representative of the total extent of discrimination, nor provide a basis for describing trends, levels or distributions. They also tend to lack a good definition of a risk population. To effectively design and evaluate anti-discrimination policies methods of quantifying the level of discrimination need to meet these criteria.

**Purpose** – direct benefits for the target group (s):

Data is needed to document the situation for people exposed to discrimination. This data is important to enable victims of discrimination to pursue and obtain redress for legitimate claims. Data is needed to effectively engage in the new European anti-discrimination legal development, and to document the effectiveness of anti-discrimination policies.

Methods of data collection on discrimination must strike the balance between the right to information and the right to privacy. Accurate documentation of the differential treatment experienced by ethnic groups in many areas of public life is a fundamental element in promoting civil rights and non-discrimination in Europe. It is also important to document inequalities in outcome, whatever the cause of these differences.

**Results** – Tangible products or services to be delivered by the project are two reports:

The first year a preliminary report Towards Common Measures of Discrimination will be presented with recommendations on data collection for the targeted geographic area (Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands). This preliminary report will have a particular focus on the use of outcomes, seen through registers based data, as indicators of the cumulative effects of discrimination over time. It will also contain information on the existence of relevant surveys and cases regarding discrimination on ethnic grounds. The second year a final report will be produced. This will include suggestions regarding linking information from register data and surveys or cases about perceived discrimination. Linking data and suggesting a model of analysis can help to understand better the relationship between perceived discrimination and outcomes.

At this stage we will expand to new participants, who will be asked to comment on the suggested model of linking data in their national setting. So far we have contacted experts in the Czech Republic, France and Portugal.

### **Partners and participants:**

Ella Ghosh, Head of office	Centre for Combating Ethnic Discrimination, Norway
Eero Olli, Project Manager	Centre for Combating Ethnic Discrimination, Norway
Birgitte Kofod Olsen	Danish Institute of Human Rights
Christoffer Badse	Danish Institute of Human Rights
Jessika ter Wal	Utrecht University and OLMCM, Netherlands
Annetette Lindhardt Olsen	Statistics Denmark
Kristian Rose Tronstad	Statistics Norway
Lars Østby	Statistics Norway
Ko Oudhof	Statistics Netherlands
Chytil Daniel	Statistics Czech
Andrea Baršová	Office of the Government of the Czech Republic - Human Rights Unit
Maria Cidalia Figueiredo	Commission for Equality and against Racial Discrimination, Portugal
Maria José Carrilho	Demographic and Migration Statistics, INE, Portugal

## **Activities in the first implementation phase (1. February - 30. November 2005)**

### **Part one – 1. Meeting *Towards Common Measures of Discrimination***

The first meeting of the current partners was held in Utrecht 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> of March 2005. The purpose of this meeting was to agree on an outline of content for the preliminary report to be presented in October. We allocated responsibilities among the partners for the different contributions to this report. We also appointed the participants who would have the overall responsibility to edit the report.

### **Part 2 – Writing processes**

During the spring and summer of 2005 the partners are writing chapters for the preliminary report regarding the situation in their countries and how to develop common measures of discrimination. The drafts were spread via e-mail to co-participants and the project manager in Norway. Norway and Denmark share responsibility for editing the texts.

### **Part 3. Second meeting *Towards Common Measures of Discrimination***

In August the partners met in Copenhagen. The authors presented a draft for chapters to the report and we discussed recommendations on how to collect representative and comparable data on discrimination. We agreed to have a working meeting of the editors in Norway in late September.

We will prepare the seminar in November and formally contact possible new partners.

### **Part 4. Report *Towards Common Measures of Discrimination***

In October the final draft of the report shall be made ready for printing. The report, *Towards Common Measures of Discrimination*, should be ready in November. The report will include chapters regarding the situation in Norway, Denmark and the Netherlands. The report will be printed in 500 copies, to be disseminated among participants at the upcoming seminar, researchers, EU, and government representatives, and others.

### **Part 5. Seminar and presentation of report *Towards Common Measures of Discrimination***

On November 15<sup>th</sup> we will arrange a seminar in Oslo to present our preliminary report and recommendations. We will invite experts on statistics as a tool to combat discrimination and the research group that on behalf of the EUMC evaluates the previous perceived discrimination surveys in Europe, to comment on our approach. Representatives from the EUMC, the Community Action Program, and EU working group of data collection will be invited along with ECRIs working group on data collection. We also invite government representatives and local NGOs working with documentation.

### **Part 6. Third Meeting: Evaluation and starting the next phase**

On November 16<sup>th</sup> we will continue with a workshop for the old and the new participants in the project. After the seminar the project partners will discuss the feedback from the seminar. We will use the logical framework approach and the log-frame matrix (Appendix A) and evaluate the progress in our project.

We will start discussions concerning how to proceed with our final report, define research questions, allocate responsibilities for writing and editing, and define the process of how we will arrive to our recommendations. In addition, we need to set locations and dates for our meetings and the seminar for the second implementation phase.

### **Part 7 Extending the project**

We will discuss how to extend the geographical targeted area of Common Measures of Discrimination. A matter of particular concern is if and how it is possible to adapt the model the present participants are working on to countries without available register data, and with large population groups that are vulnerable to discrimination.

#### **Activities in the second implementation phase (1. December 2005 - 30. November 2006)**

### **Part 8. Fourth Meeting *Towards Common Measures of Discrimination***

March 2006 the new partners will present their views as to a) if they can follow the recommendations presented in our preliminary report b) what adjustments are needed to follow up if it is not possible to follow the suggested procedure and c) what ideas they have on measuring discrimination in their own countries. The discussions will be guiding for the further writing. This meeting is likely to take place in Prague.

### **Part 9. Fifth Meeting *Towards Common Measures of Discrimination***

August 2006 meeting is for a smaller core group only, and the aim is to discuss our recommendations and the draft for the final report more in detail.

### **Part 10. Final Report *Towards Common Measures of Discrimination***

In October the final draft of the report shall be made ready for printing. The report will include chapters regarding the use of different sources for data (registers, surveys and case descriptions), comparability issues, possibilities for and problems in extending the approach to new countries. The report will be printed in 500 copies, to be disseminated among participants at the upcoming seminar, researchers, EU, and government representatives, and others.

### **Part 11. Seminar and presentation of report *Towards Common Measures of Discrimination***

In November 2006 we will arrange a seminar in Oslo to present our final report and recommendations. The programme, participation, and profile of the seminar will be discussed and finalised in the first meeting in 2006 (March). We will invite experts on statistics as a tool to combat discrimination and the research group that on behalf of the EUMC evaluates the previous perceived discrimination surveys in Europe, to comment on our approach. Representatives from EUMC, the Community Action Program, and EU working group of data collection will be invited along with ECRI's working group on data collection. We also invite government representatives and local NGOs working with documentation.