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## **Announcement for benchmark revision of national accounts 2025**

In accordance with the Harmonized European Revision Policy (HERP), the Statistical Office of Montenegro (MONSTAT) has planned the benchmark revision of national accounts statistics in 2026.

Due to the decision of the Government of Montenegro to accelerate the process of EU integration and the necessity to intensify the closing of the Chapter 18, we would like to inform the public that MONSTAT has undertaken all activities to implement the benchmark revision of national accounts statistics in 2025.

The revision of national accounts will cover the period 2006-2023, and will provide the preconditions for the fulfilment of final benchmarks for the closure of Chapter 18 – Statistics in the process of accession to the European Union. The revision will be the result of new data sources, methodological improvements, and implementation of a new Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP) 2018.

New data sources include data from the Census of Population, Households, and Dwellings 2023, the Census of Agriculture 2024 and administrative data sources. In order to improve the accuracy and consistency of national accounts, methodological improvements have been made in the compilation of the expenditure category Non-profit Institutions Serving Households (NPISH), imputed rent and adjustments for exhaustiveness.

The revision will cover methodological improvements accumulated through the IPA projects of EU and Eurostat's support to the Statistical Office of Montenegro. The revision will also include the implementation of a new Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP) 2018.

The revision of national accounts and the preparation of the Description of the sources and methods of compilation of gross national income (GNI inventory), which describes in detail the methodology for calculating gross national income (GNI) in accordance with the European System of National and Regional Accounts (ESA 2010), are key steps towards meeting the requirements for closing the Chapter 18 – Statistics. These steps ensure a compliance with ESA 2010, which is essential for a reliable GNI reporting.

Despite limited human resources, MONSTAT is very committed to finalizing the remaining requirements in order to meet the conditions for the fulfilment of the final benchmarks, and the temporary closure of Chapter 18 - Statistics.

We believe that our commitment will result in a successful revision, as well as a verification by Eurostat that Montenegro's national accounts meet the European standards.

The public will be in a timely manner informed about further progress of the revision, and the release of the results obtained.