



An
Phríomh-Oifig
Staidrimh

Central
Statistics
Office

SOLAS
learning works

Statistical collaboration between the Central Statistics Office and SOLAS

The Central Statistics Office (CSO) and SOLAS – An tSeirbhis Oideachais Leanunaigh agus Scileanna – hereby agree to collaborate on a statistical project to evaluate the outcomes of learners who have exited SOLAS funded FET programmes.

The legal basis for this collaboration is Section 11(1) of the Statistics Act, 1993.

The project will be conducted in line with all CSO data protocols and guidelines and subject to the strict legal provisions on the protection of information contained in Part V of the Statistics Act, 1993.

The collaboration will involve the secondment, to the CSO, by SOLAS of a SOLAS Research Officer for an agreed 4 days per week days per week for a 12 month period, open to review by CSO and SOLAS. The SOLAS Research Officer will be under contract to SOLAS and be remunerated by SOLAS. All issues relating to the individual's conditions of work (e.g. holidays, meetings with SOLAS management etc.) will be managed by SOLAS.

This SOLAS Research Officer will work on the statistical project in the offices of the CSO. The SOLAS Research Officer will be an Officer of Statistics as per Section 20(b) of the Statistics Act for the purposes of this collaboration; and will be required to sign the declaration specified in Section 21 of the Statistics Act before the work commences. The SOLAS Research Officer will be required to abide by all relevant CSO workplace policies, including policies on HR, ICT acceptable usage, and statistical confidentiality and data security.

The SOLAS Research Officer assigned to Statistical Systems Coordination Unit (SSCU) while on secondment in CSO with statistical supervision provided by the Head of Division. The SOLAS Research Officer will be required to observe all statistical instructions given by the CSO under the agreed arrangements.

Additional project direction and expertise will be provided by the Manager, Operational Data Analytics Unit, SOLAS and the Senior Statistician with the Department of Education and Skills. These Officers will be an Officer of Statistics as per Section 20(b) of the Statistics Act for the purposes of this collaboration; and will be required to sign the declaration specified in Section 21 of the Statistics Act before the work commences.

The project will focus on developing statistical products to support the development of the SOLAS National FET Outcome Evaluation Model, the Programme Learner Support System (PLSS) data source and Apprenticeship.

The project will involve linking data from a range of administrative databases including those of the Revenue Commissioners, the Department of Social Protection, the Qualifications Authority of Ireland and the Education Authorities. No directly identifiable data will be made available to the project analysis team, including the person appointed by SOLAS.

The Statistics Act 1993 imposes heavy penalties for the misuse of information collected by the Office including the use of data collected under the Act for reasons other than statistical compilation and analysis purposes.

The CSO reserves the right to place any analyses/outputs from this research into the public domain. CSO outputs will be in line with standard statistical releases and will focus on the provision of descriptive statistics with associated commentary.

SOLAS may decide to compile and publish a report from this research in their own right. Any statistical data/analysis included must comply with the requirements of the Statistics Act, 1993. Commentary of a policy focussed nature is a matter entirely for SOLAS and can in no way be attributed/associated to the Central Statistics Office. An explicit reference to this effect must be clearly and unambiguously made in the SOLAS report/output.

Signatories



Date : 15/11/19

Director General

Central Statistics Office



Date : 22/11/19

Chief Executive Officer

SOLAS