

Gad Nathan, 40 Years of Contributions to Official Statistics

Luisa Burck*

Central Bureau of Statistics, Jerusalem, Israel louiza@cbs.gov.il

One of Gad Nathan's most outstanding accomplishments was combining his academic career with work for the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) where he started as the Director of Statistical Methods Division and ended as the Bureau's Chief Scientist. As a leading survey statistician with a well-established international recognition, Gad Nathan initiated and carried out scientific research at the Bureau in all areas concerning official statistics; development of new sampling methods, building questionnaires, conducting duplicate surveys, application of analytical inference from complex surveys, analysis of categorical data, analysis of non-sampling errors, record matching processes and their evaluation, longitudinal data analysis, etc. As of January 2012, CBS made a transition to a monthly Labour Force Survey from a quarterly system of measuring labour force characteristics. Up to the transition, many statistical issues were addressed anew at the CBS and some major changes were introduced to sampling design and estimation as well as to relating logistics and operations of the survey. This paper, dedicated to Gad's memory, summarizes the statistical research conducted during and following the transition period, while emphasizing the principal statistical theories and applications concerning this particular survey.

Key Words: Panel Survey, composite estimation, calibration.