

World Bank

1. Demographic and social statistics (World Bank)

1.2 Labour

Labour Force Survey

Ongoing work:

The World Bank, in conjunction with UNDP and DFID, is providing assistance in the preparation and implementation of a national Labour Force survey in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

1.5 Income and consumption

Household Income and Expenditure

Database on Household Expenditure and Income Data for Transitional Economies developed as part of a project analyzing poverty and social assistance in the transition economies. The data addresses critical questions, such as the group most likely to be poor, how well social assistance programs reach the most needy, and the kinds of programs that would most effectively reduce poverty (<http://go.worldbank.org/KTN5N3L4H0>)

1.10 Political and other community activities

Governance indicators

The World Bank's Development Economics Vice Presidency and the World Bank Institute produces the annual database Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI). The WGI estimates six dimensions of governance covering 212 countries and territories for 1996-2008: Voice and Accountability, Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism, Government Effectiveness, Regulatory Quality, Rule of Law, and Control of Corruption. The latest aggregate indicators are based on hundreds of specific and disaggregated individual variables measuring various dimensions of governance, taken from 35 data sources provided by 33 different organizations. Individual measures of governance are assigned to categories capturing key dimensions of governance, and use an unobserved components model to construct six aggregate governance indicators. Both point estimates of the dimensions of governance as well as the margins of error are presented for each country. These margins of error are not unique to perceptions-based measures of governance, but are an important feature of all efforts to measure governance, including objective indicators. The WGI also addresses various methodological issues, including the interpretation and use of the data given the estimated margins of error, significance of changes over time, and correlation between governance and income. See the World Bank Institute's Governance website at: <http://www.govindicators.org>.

The Country Policy and Institutional Assessment exercise is carried out annually by World Bank Staff. Numerical scores of International Development Association (IDA) eligible countries, known as the IDA Resource Allocation Index (IRAI) were first publicly disclosed in June 2006. Country performance is assessed against a set of 16 criteria grouped in four clusters: economic management, structural policies, policies for social inclusion and equity, and public sector management and institutions. See the IRAI database at <http://go.worldbank.org/S2THW1X60>.

2. Economic Statistics (World Bank)

2.2 Economic accounts

Gross National Income

Ongoing work:

Atlas GNI per Capita

- The World Bank estimates dollar converted gross national income (GNI) per capita for all borrowing member countries, as well as most other economies;
- Per capita GNI for a country in local currency terms is converted into U.S. dollars by applying the Atlas conversion factor. The Atlas conversion factor is the simple arithmetic average of the current exchange rate and the exchange rates in the previous two years adjusted for the ratio of domestic to international inflation. The change in the GDP-deflator is used as a measure of domestic inflation, and the change in the SDR-deflator to represent international inflation. The SDR-deflator is compiled as a weighted average of the EURO-area, United States, United Kingdom and Japan's GDP-deflators;

- The purpose of applying the Atlas conversion factor is to lessen the effect of fluctuations and abrupt changes in the exchange rate, which can be heavily affected by capital flows. Thus, income measures converted using the Atlas conversion factor tend to be more stable over time, and changes in income rankings are more likely to reflect changes in relative economic performance than exchange rate fluctuations.

National Accounts

The Bank continues its collaboration with the UN, IMF, OECD, and EUROSTAT through the Inter-Secretariat working group on national accounts (ISWGNA). The ISWGNA currently finished the work on updating the SNA, and Volume 2 of 2 of the revised SNA, SNA 2008. was formally approved by the UN Statistical Commission in February 2009. This project has been underway since 2003 and managed by 5 organizations including IMF, Eurostat, OECD, UN, and the World Bank. The project team hosted by Development Data Group of the World Bank delivered a revised SNA 2008 Manual after extensive worldwide consultations, research, and consensus building among countries and international organizations. The SNA 2008 is cosigned by the heads of 5 agencies and will be translated to all UN languages. The World Bank will play an important role in assisting developing countries to implement the SNA 2008.

2.3 Business statistics

Business statistics

•Doing Business

The World Bank/International Finance Corporation's Doing Business database provides objective measures of business regulations and their enforcement. The Doing Business indicators are comparable across 183 economies. They indicate the regulatory costs of business and can be used to analyze specific regulations that enhance or constrain investment, productivity and growth. Topics include: starting a business, dealing with construction permits, employing workers, registering property, getting credit, protecting investors, paying taxes, trading across borders, enforcing contracts, and closing a business. See the Doing Business website: <http://www.doingbusiness.org/>

•Enterprise Surveys

The World Bank collects data on the business environment in 125 countries based on surveys of more than 100,000 firms. The surveys provide indicators of firm productivity and performance. Topics include: regulations and taxes, permits and licenses, corruption, crime, informal sector, gender, finance, infrastructure, innovation, trade, and work force. See the Enterprise survey website: <http://www.enterprisesurveys.org>

•Private Participation in Infrastructure (PPI)

The PPI Project Database has data on more than 4,300 projects in 137 low- and middle-income countries. The database is the leading source of PPI trends in the developing world, covering projects in the energy, telecommunications, transport, and water and sewerage. See the PPI database: <http://ppi.worldbank.org/>.

2.4.6 Banking, insurance, financial statistics

Financial Statistics

- The World Bank is involved in the effort to establish standards among international organizations relevant to Financial Statistics, through its active participation in the Inter-Agency Task Force on Finance Statistics. The Inter-Agency Task Force on Finance Statistics is one of the interagency task forces endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission to co-ordinate work among the participating agencies to improve the quality, transparency, timeliness and availability of data on external debt and international reserve assets. The Task Force is chaired by the IMF and includes representatives from the BIS, ECB, EUROSTAT, OECD, UN, and the World Bank which have collaborated to produce these data.
 - The World Bank's Financial Sector is creating and publishing a comprehensive database of national Financial Sector Development Indicators which includes key data on banking, equity markets, and bond markets.
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2.6 International trade and balance of payments

External Debt Statistics

- The World Bank's Debt Reporting System (DRS) requires every member country, which has received either an IBRD loan or an IDA credit to provide information on its external debt. The borrowing countries are required to report their long-term external debt on the following forms:
 - (i) Form 1 - Description of Individual External Public Debt and Private Debt Publicly Guaranteed which consists of information on each loan characteristics, such as commitment date, amount of loan commitment, loan purpose, interest rate, and terms and conditions of payments;
 - (ii) Form 1A - Schedule of Drawings and Principal and Interest Payments for Individual External Public Debt and Private Debt Publicly Guaranteed, purpose of which is to enable the Bank to make projections of future payments of principal and interest for those loans that have irregular patterns of repayments;
 - (iii) Form 2 - Individual External Public Debts and Private Debts Publicly Guaranteed: Current Status and Transactions During Period. This form

contains loan-by-loan information on debt stocks and debt flows during the reporting period;

(iv) Form 3 - To contain specific amendments to Forms 1 and 2;

(v) Form 4 - External Private Non-Guaranteed Debt to include aggregate stocks and flows data on long-term external private non-guaranteed debt.

- The World Bank has been working closely with the Commonwealth secretariat and the UNCTAD to improve the data collection across the globe. In addition, new tools are being built and made available to reporting countries through the external data collection site (Web-DRS), to speed up the process.

- The Joint External Debt Hub (JEDH) brings together external debt data and selected foreign assets from international creditor/market and national debtor sources and was recently expanded to include data from Berne Union Data will be expanded to include additional indicators from Paris Club and IMF's SDR allocations. The creditor/market data are complemented in the JEDH by series from the World Bank's Quarterly External Debt Database from national sources. National data has been extended to not only SDDS/QEDS countries but also GSSD/QEDS countries. Data are updated on a quarterly basis. As a pilot project of the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX), JEDH applies technological innovation to the context and content of information being exchanged with the aim of generating efficiencies through the convergence of data flows into a common framework. The Bank is also working in collaboration with the IMF and other partners to improve statistics on remittance flows to developing countries. The system is accessible from: <http://www.jedh.org>.

- In collaboration with the IMF, the World Bank launched a web based, centralized quarterly external debt debtor database located in the World Bank. Quarterly External Debt Statistics (QEDS) database brings together detailed external debt data that are published separately by countries that subscribe to the IMF' Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS). The benefit of bringing together comparable external debt data for a large number of SDDS-subscribing countries in one central location is to facilitate macroeconomic analysis and cross-country data comparison. Sixty one SDDS countries (61) are currently participating in this initiative. QEDS database has been extended to a selected number of countries that participate in the IMF's General Data Dissemination System (GDDS) in February 2008. As of December 2009, forty-six GDDS countries have agreed to participate in this database. The system is accessible from: <http://www.worldbank.org/qeds>.

- DECDG is also publishing The Little Book on External Debt which provides a quick reference for users interested in external debt stocks and flows, major economic aggregates, key debt ratios, and the currency composition of long-term debt for all countries reporting through the Debtor Reporting system. A pocket edition of the Global Development Finance 2009, Volume II: Summary and Country Tables, it contains statistical tables for 128 countries as well as summary tables for regional and income groups.

Foreign Trade Statistics

Ongoing work:

The World Bank, in close collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), has developed a web-based trade system called World Integrated Trade Solution (WITS). This system allows access to information on trade and tariffs compiled by various international organizations. The merchandise trade data is based on bilateral trade between every reporting and trading partner. Tariff and non-tariff data are from UNCTAD files. The system also provides tariff data from WTO's IDB and CTS databases. WITS automatically converts data between various trade classifications also known as nomenclatures and produces product and country aggregated results which can be saved or exported to other applications for further analysis. In addition, WITS contains simulation tools that are extremely useful for trade negotiations. WITS allows users to produce new tariff structures using pre-defined or user-defined tariff change scenarios (Doha negotiations, Unilateral MFN applied, preferential agreements). Users can simulate the impact of tariff changes on trade flows (trade creation and diversion), tariff revenues, and consumer welfare using partial equilibrium modeling tools. At present, WITS is going through a system renewal to have a fully web-based system without any installations required. This work is being done with International Trade Center (ITC) in Geneva and UNCTAD. It follows a model of ITC MACMAP for data extraction. The new WITS is going to have charting and other capabilities and is scheduled to be fully functional by July 2010.

2.7 Prices

International Comparison Programme

Priority objectives:

- In the CIS region, the World Bank will collaborate with the Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States, and the Russian Federal Service of State Statistics (Rosstat) to prepare and implement the ICP 2011 global round of the International Comparison Program.

- The CIS Interstate Statistical Committee will perform the functions of the regional coordinator for the 2011 ICP round in the CIS region and advise the ICP Global Office accordingly. The Russian Federal State Statistics Service - Rosstat will act as a partner institution in coordinating the programme in the CIS region. The CIS Interstate Statistical Committee and the Rosstat will design a draft work programme describing the participation of the CIS region.

- The 2011 round of the International Comparison Programme will leverage on the successful implementation of the 2005 round which, based on

a concerted effort by international and national statistical agencies, was better planned, managed and coordinated than previous rounds. The ICP Global Office will work to broaden the scope of the Programme, streamline quality assessment processes, improve the economic relevance of PPP statistics, ensure the sustainability of PPP deliveries, and enhance statistical capacity building activities related to the generation of ICP basic data with a specific focus on price statistics and the implementation of the System of National Accounts 1993/2008. The main objectives of the 2011 ICP are to: broaden the scope of the programme; better address users' needs; enhance the programme's economic relevance by building on the assets of the previous round and through innovations and continuous improvements in ICP methodologies; enhance ICP-related statistical capacity building activities; increase data quality and reliability and make ICP a transparent process.

- As agreed at the first Regional Coordinators Meeting held in Washington DC in September 2009, which registered the participation of representatives from CIS and Rosstat, all the regions (including CIS) will collaborate to advance the ICP innovation agenda that includes: (i) the development of a comprehensive outreach strategy; (ii) the preparation and implementation of an ICP quality assurance framework; (iii) the elaboration of a statistical capacity building strategy; (iv) the preparation and publishing of an ICP book titled "Measuring the Size of the World Economy"; (v) the development of a national accounts framework for ICP that will be implemented using specifically defined guidelines of activities; (vi) a system of economic validation of price and expenditure data that will be implemented together with statistical validation methods that proved effective in 2005; (vii) a new method to compute global PPPs; and (viii) continuous improvements in ICP methodologies.
- The Bank maintains a web site on International Comparison program (ICP). The ICP is a global statistical initiative which contributes substantially towards the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations by improving the reliability of estimates of those living in poverty and enabling more accurate comparisons of GDP and component levels across countries. For more information, see <http://www.worldbank.org/data/icp>.

Bridging ICP and Household Budget Survey Data to Calculate PPP for the Poor

In order to compute poverty specific purchasing power parities (PPPs) for countries where poverty is prevalent, price data obtained from the 2005 International Comparison Program (ICP) ICP was used in conjunction with weights representing the expenditure patterns of the poor. To do so, household consumption data available from national household surveys were re-aggregated ("standardized") according to the ICP standard classifications. This work resulted in a collection of new micro-datasets providing detailed data on household consumption.

3. Environment and multi-domain statistics (World Bank)

3.1 Environment

Environmental Indicators

- The 2009 edition of the World Development Indicators, the annual World Bank statistical flagship publication, includes an updated and expanded set of 16 tables on environmental indicators covering some 150 countries. Its accompanying CD-ROM includes time series data for more than 200 countries.
- The Little Green Data Book presents a number of environmental indicators based on the World Development Indicators and its accompanying CD-ROM. Under the headings of agriculture, forests, biodiversity, energy, emissions and pollution, water and sanitation, and 'greener' national accounts (adjusted for natural resource depletion and pollution damage), the Little Green Data Book presents key indicators of the environment and its relationship to people for more than 200 countries.
- The World Bank contributes to the development of core and supplementary environmental indicators for monitoring progress toward the Millennium Development Goals through the Environment subgroup of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on the MDGs.
- A section of the environmental database is now available electronically on the World Bank's Environment Department website. The database includes, among others, the ECE countries and it is annually updated from various sources inside and outside the World Bank. Go to <http://www.worldbank.org/environment> and select Data & Statistics from the left navigation bar.
- The World Bank works with the UN Statistics Division in this area and continues to support initiatives in the field of environmental Work in this area has been bolstered by the development of accompanying indicators of environmental change including estimation of Adjusted Net Savings (genuine savings) for more than 140 countries. These estimates are being published in the World Development Indicators and the Little Green Data book.
- The World Bank has devoted its 2010 World Development Report to Climate Change."

Priority objectives:

- Development of core environmental indicators for monitoring progress toward the international development goals adopted by the World Bank, United Nations and the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD.
 - Publication of environmental indicators through the Little Green Data Book, the World Development Indicators and the Environment Department website.
 - Updated on a yearly basis. New products to be showcased in the website include environment at-a-glance fact sheets by country.
 - The World Bank will continue to provide expertise on green accounting and the measurement of sustainable development through its participation in activities with UNECE and other international groups.
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3.2 Regional and small area statistics

Sub-national Statistics

New Activities

The Development Data Group of the World Bank is involved in maintaining, documenting, and incorporating sub-national data into its databases. We will be augmenting the World Development Indicators CD-ROM product to support mapping and charting of sub-national data.

Rural Development Statistics

- Rural Development Indicators Handbook presents a number of indicators based on rural economic performance, natural resource management, and rural well-being. These indicators are presented for over 200 countries, in addition to regional and income-level tables.

3.3 Multi-domain statistics and indicators

Infrastructure Indicators

Ongoing work:

The World Bank's Development Data Group (DECDG) along with the Sustainable Development Vice-Presidency and the various sector and regional offices are developing a core set of infrastructure indicators and systematic database covering the energy, water & sanitation, transport, and ICT sectors which will be used to monitor project, country, and global policies & performance. Country tables on ICT, sourced mainly from the ITU, can be accessed from the World Bank's external Data site.

See also: <http://www.worldbank.org/data/countrydata/countrydata.html>

3.3.1 Living conditions, poverty and cross-cutting social issues

Poverty Statistics

- New estimates of global poverty are the first re-evaluation of the World Bank's "\$1 a day" poverty line since 1999. The international poverty line has been recalibrated at \$1.25 a day, using new data on purchasing power parities (PPPs), compiled by the International Comparison Program, and an expanded set of household income and expenditure surveys. New measurements of the extent and depth of poverty are presented for 115 developing countries, along with poverty measurements based on their national poverty lines.

- The World Bank will continue its theoretical and practical work in the area of measuring and analysing income poverty, as well as efforts in developing tools to measure the many other dimensions of poverty. In the past few years the WB prepared a Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRSP) Source Book, which is designed as a handbook for the 42 PRSP countries (9 of them are in the ECE region) in developing their strategy for poverty alleviation. A considerable part of the book is focused on the issues of data on poverty, poverty measurement, and poverty monitoring. The Bank will continue maintenance and updating of databases on Poverty developed to assist countries in monitoring poverty trends and embarking on strategies to help them reduce poverty. The aim is to help countries reach the Strategy 21 goals of fostering economic well-being and social development. They include:

Poverty Monitoring Database provides quick access to comprehensive poverty information. Its main components are:

- (i) Information on household surveys: key features and general information on income/consumption surveys conducted recently. The information sheets indicate whether household survey data are available to the general public. Links to the data set are provided when they are available on the web;

- (ii) Poverty Assessment Summaries conducted by the World Bank since 1993;

- (iii) Participatory Poverty Assessments, which provide basic information on assessments conducted by the Bank and other institutions;

PovcalNet is an interactive computational tool that allows users to replicate the calculations made by the World Bank's researchers in estimating the extent of absolute poverty in the world.

PovcalNet also allows one to calculate the poverty measures under different assumptions and to assemble the estimates using alternative country groupings or for any set of individual countries of their choosing. (<http://go.worldbank.org/NT2A1XUWP0>).

- Training of statisticians and policy makers on how to use household survey data for analysis and policy is and will continue to be provided by the World Bank Institute on a regional basis. Country specific training on analysis is carried out under several LSMS projects and under Poverty Assessments.

- The Bank will continue maintenance and updating of databases on Poverty developed to assist countries in monitoring poverty trends and embarking on strategies to help them reduce poverty. The aim is to help countries reach the Strategy 21 goals of fostering economic well-being and social development.

- o Poverty Monitoring Database (<http://go.worldbank.org/CVC2XGIIH0>)

- o Living Standards Measurement Study Survey Database <http://www.worldbank.org/lsm/>

- o Database on Household Expenditure and Income Data for Transitional Economies (<http://go.worldbank.org/KTN5N3L4H0>)

- o PovcalNet <http://go.worldbank.org/NT2A1XUWP0>).

See: <http://www.worldbank.org/data/> for more information.

3.3.5 Indicators related to the Millennium Development Goals

MDG Indicators

- In collaboration with other international agencies the World Bank is working to strengthen the system to monitor progress towards the Millennium Development Goals. At the international level, efforts are continuing to improve poverty and education data and to promote greater coordination in the compilation and dissemination of data on the MDG indicators. At the national level, efforts are under way to strengthen the capacity of countries to report on progress towards the goals and to document the statistical methods and procedures used.

- The Bank maintains a web site on Millennium Development Goals (MDG). MDGs grew out of the agreements and resolutions of world conferences organized by the United Nations.

See also: <http://www.developmentgoals.org/>.

- The World Bank contributes to the development of core and supplementary environmental indicators for monitoring progress toward the Millennium Development Goals through the Environment subgroup of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on the MDGs.

3.3.6 Sustainable development

Sustainable Development

- The World Bank contributes to the Joint UNECE/OECD/Eurostat Working Group on Statistics for Sustainable Development (WGSSD). This group aims to develop a guidance document on developing asset-based approaches to measuring sustainable development.

- The World Bank contributes to the update of the Indicators of the UN Commission for Sustainable Development Indicators taskforce. Indicators are now classified as core and non-core and provide methodology sheets and background information to support indicator efforts in countries.

3.4 Yearbooks and similar compendia

Compendia

- The Bank releases two annual publications both in hard copy and on CD-ROM, World Development Indicators and Global Development Finance. The Atlas of Global Development is distributed in hard copy. This year, it will also be available in electronic format. Selected indicators from the World Development Indicators also appear in the World Development Report, the Little Data Book, the Little Green Data Book, The Little Book on External Debt (all annual), The Little Data Book on Information, and Communication Technology, The Little Data Book on Private Sector Development, and the Little Data Book on Gender. Selected tables from these publications are available on the Bank's website: <http://www.worldbank.org/data/>.

DECDG also produces the online Atlas of MDGs available from <http://devdata.worldbank.org/atlas-mdg/>.

4. Methodology of data collection, processing, dissemination and analysis (World Bank)

4.1 Metadata

DDI

Together with the International Household Survey Network (IHSN), the World Bank is advocating and supporting the use of the Data Documentation Initiative (DDI) metadata specification for the documentation and dissemination of microdata.

4.3.3 Household surveys

International Household Survey Network (IHSN)

The World Bank participates in the governing body of the International Household Survey Network (IHSN), established in September 2004 (with various UN agencies, regional development banks, PARIS21, and other bilateral and multilateral partners), and coordinates the IHSN secretariat. (

<http://www.surveynetwork.org/> 

) IHSN advocates better survey planning, promotes harmonization and development of data collection instruments, provides survey data

dissemination tools and guidelines, and maintains a central survey and census catalogue. World Bank has developed a Survey Data Dissemination Toolkit, in cooperation with IHSN, aiming to provide developing countries with software and guidelines for proper preservation, documentation and dissemination of survey micro data. The Toolkit is based on the Data Documentation Initiative (DDI) standard. The Toolkit is used as a standard tool for the 2010 round of UNICEF-MICS surveys.

The World Bank and IHSN have initiated the development of microdata anonymization tools and dissemination guidelines, building on the work by the UN-ECE Task Force on Confidentiality and Microdata.

Living Standards Measurement Survey

Living Standards Measurement Survey Database contains all information on LSMS surveys that have been carried out. Documentation, questionnaires, manuals and other basic information can be downloaded from the site. The actual data can either be downloaded directly from the site (where countries have given permission) or may be requested from the data base manager. Each survey data set contains constructed welfare measures that can be used for poverty analysis. To increase the ease of use and accessibility of the LSMS data sets two new tools are being constructed. The first is a searchable meta data file that allows researchers and analysts to identify those surveys that meet their research needs. A further effort to expand the use of the LSMS data sets is an interactive multi-survey data base that allows for on-the-fly tables and other analyses of the data for those who do not have the skills or time to analyze full household surveys. A test version of this tool has been finalized.

- The World Bank continues to provide assistance in planning, designing, implementing and analyzing the Living Standard Measurement Study (LSMS) surveys. The LSMS surveys represent one piece of larger, integrated efforts to improve the overall statistical system of each country by providing quality household level data.

The WB ISTAT and the PRSP unit have supported efforts to determine the feasibility of using the HBS to measure welfare in future years.

- Regional work is being carried out in analyzing welfare data and how LSMS and HBS surveys are similar and dissimilar and the implications this has for welfare analysis over time.

- The LSMS group has developed a program of research investigating methodological issues related to the measurement of key concepts, how to improve data quality and ways in which LSMS survey data can be linked to other data bases. In the region, steps have been taken in designing experiments on the measurement of consumption.

- Assistance in planning, designing, implementing and analyzing LSMS surveys is provided by staff in DECRG-Poverty Group. Assistance includes technical advice on all stages of survey work, from deciding on the need for an LSMS survey, how best to design and implement such a survey, to how the resulting data can be analyzed. A variety of printed and electronic materials are also available to survey planners and analysts. Several of these are:

- (i) the recent book on *Designing Household Survey Questionnaires for Developing Countries: Lessons from Fifteen years of the LSMS Surveys*, that link the policy questions to be answered to the actual data that must be collected. Additional chapters are being added as the new topics become more and more important: draft chapters on energy and transportation have been written;

- (ii) a *Manual for Planning and Implementing LSMS Surveys*, that covers all phases of an LSMS survey, from budgeting, to sampling, field work and data management and analysis;

- (iii) examples of questionnaires, manuals and other field work material from all countries where LSMS surveys have been done;

- (iv) case studies on how to increase the analytic capacity in country;

- (v) databases from more than 60 LSMS surveys.

- Formal training courses on survey design and implementation along with hands-on-training are provided, both within and outside the Bank. New techniques in small area estimation for poverty mapping are being developed that link census and household survey data. Training in these techniques as well as technical assistance in their implementation is also provided by DECRG-PO.

- The Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS) web site provides access to documentation and data from LSMS surveys done in the region, including Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyz Republic, Romania, Russia (link to CPC site), and Tajikistan.

4.5 Dissemination, data warehousing

Dissemination

- The Development Data Group of the World Bank launched the Development Data Platform (DDP), a web-based statistical data collection and dissemination system for its staff. The data delivery is over the internet using secure protocols. The objective was to build an infrastructure to bring many of the statistical databases in the Bank under a data warehouse. Further, through arrangements with other participating organizations/member countries, data from their respective sources could also be made available to a user's query over the internet, provided the user were to have the necessary privileges to access that data. As a first step, socio-economic, external debt and trade indicators and other related Bank/IDA data have been included in this warehouse. An external version of the DDP system, called "DDP Lite" is being developed which would provide limited DDP functionality to other international organizations. This is designed to run on a number of different operating system and server environments.

- A web-based system, Data Platform (DP), is part of the DDP suite of products developed to help clients and partners to manage and disseminate their data based on their preferences and needs. It provides a framework for the use and management of quantitative data and their metadata.

- The Gateway initiative is envisioned as a portal website on development issues, from which users will be able to access information, resources and tools, and into which they will be able to contribute their own knowledge and experience

<http://www.developmentgateway.org/>

- Data Query offers free access to a segment of the World Development Indicators (WDI) database. This segment includes 54 time series indicators for 226 countries and country aggregates, from 1960-2007. (<http://ddp-ext.worldbank.org/ext/DDPQQ/member.do?method=getMembers&userid=1&queryId=135/>).
- The Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS) web site provides access to documentation and data from LSMS surveys done in all regions, including ECE Region.

<http://www.worldbank.org/lsms/lsmshome.html>

- Data Visualizer, is new visualization tool creating animated charts using the most widely used and official development data. New tools and emerging techniques are providing new opportunities for visualizing data and making it more interesting to users. Adding animation to this only increases its impact. To use this new tool, see

<http://devdata.worldbank.org/DataVisualizer/>

- The World bank Data Finder, in collaboration with Google, features numeric results for 17 World Development Indicators (WDI) sourced to the World. A Google search on these indicators features a box at the top of the page highlighting Bank data and linking to Google's public data graphing tool. Google's graphing tool lets users see and compare country-by-country statistics and offers customized graphs with a 'link' or web address that can be easily embedded and shared in other websites. The Data Finder allows access to indicator definitions, quick facts, interactive maps, and additional World Bank related resources. To see this new tool, see

<http://datafinder.worldbank.org/>

- Bulletin Board on Statistical Capacity (BBSC) has been developed. It aims to improve measuring and monitoring of statistical capacity of IDA countries in close collaboration with countries and users. The database contains information on various aspects of national statistical systems and includes a country-level statistical capacity indicator based on a set of criteria consistent with international recommendations. To access Country Profiles, click here. To see the site, go to

<http://www.worldbank.org/data/bbscGeneral>

Data Dissemination System (GDDS) Development of Standards for Data Availability and Dissemination, and assisting countries in improving their work.

- Together with the IMF, the World Bank will continue to work on the General Data Dissemination System (GDDS) which provides guidelines to the countries in the dissemination of economic, financial and socio-demographic data to the public and establishes a broad framework for countries seeking improvements in their statistical systems. The World Bank has developed guidelines for the preparation of metadata covering the following areas: population, education, health, poverty assessment and monitoring. The World Bank, as part of phase one of this project, in collaboration with the IMF, has been participating in regional seminars and in preparation of the GDDS metadata for participating countries, as well as providing technical support from headquarters or in the field to staff of member countries participating in the GDDS.

4.6 Statistical confidentiality and disclosure protection

Data analysis

Global Development Network (GDN)

- The Global Development Network (GDN) Initiative sponsors and provides information about training and other activities to support broader and better use of microdata in macro- and socio-economic research .

5. Strategic and managerial issues of official statistics (World Bank)

5.3 Quality frameworks and measurement of performance of statistical systems and offices

Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF)

- The World Bank has been working with the IMF on the Socio-demographic and Poverty modules of the Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF). The framework provides countries with a flexible structure for the qualitative assessment of various aspects of the statistical environment and infrastructure in which the data are collected, processed, and disseminated. It also identifies areas requiring technical assistance. The income

poverty and education modules have been completed. Modules for health and population are under development.

5.5 Technological resources (including standards for electronic data exchange and data sharing)

Statistical Information Collection and Processing

- The World Bank gathers macroeconomic data and projections at least once a year from its country teams in a process known as the Unified Survey. These data and projections are used for planning and evaluating Bank operations. They underlie work on creditworthiness and risk assessment and they are an important part of the Bank's external publications such as the World Development Indicators, the country and regional At-a-Glance tables, and Global Development Finance. These data are collected in a standardized way using the World Bank's country database system known as the Live Database (LDB). The LDB is an Excel based system which standardizes the management of macroeconomic information by organizing information into separate sheets by topic and utilizing indicator codes, common layouts, and a variety of formatting, calculation, and reporting tools.
- The Development Data Platform (DDP), a web-based statistical data collection and dissemination system has integrated and streamlined time-series data management operations at the Bank, and has established a comprehensive platform to support the statistical data collection and dissemination functions of the Bank. Also, the software can be provided to countries to further the goal of statistical capacity building in these countries. The software developed in this project may be installed in these countries.
- The system has also incorporated micro data from household surveys allowing cross-country comparisons on key indicators by welfare status.
- A new web-based system, Data Platform (dp), is part of the DDP suite of products developed to help clients and partners to manage and disseminate their data based on their preferences and needs. It provides a framework for the use and management of quantitative data and their metadata. The system is especially useful for any organization with a need to publish statistical data on the web.

SDMX

- The BIS, ECB, EUROSTAT, IMF, OECD, UN, and the World Bank have set up a partnership to focus on establishing web-based standards for more efficient exchange and sharing of statistical information and metadata, which is called SDMX. As part of this effort, the Bank is involved in a Pilot Project in rebuilding the Joint External Debt Statistics through SDMX standards (see

<http://www.jedh.org/>

). These statistics are a product of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Finance Statistics. They bring together data that are currently compiled and published separately by the contributing international agencies on components of countries' external debt and international reserve assets. This should facilitate timely and frequent access by a broad range of users to a single data set. These data are mostly from creditor and market sources, but also include information provided by the debtor countries to the Quarterly External Debt Statistics (QEDS) of the World Bank. The goal is to explore common e-standards and ongoing standardization activities that could allow us to gain efficiency and avoid duplication of effort in our own work and possibly for the work of others in the field of statistical information. We intend to do this by taking advantage of existing and emerging:

- o Exchange protocols, such as GESMES/CB which was implemented by central banks for exchanging time series;
 - o E-standards, such as Extensible Markup Language (XML).
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5.7 Technical cooperation and capacity building programmes

Statistical Capacity Building

Ongoing work:

- The World Bank promotes statistical capacity building (SCB) mainly through financial instruments, advisory services, knowledge products, and partnerships. Our activities are centred around the implementation of the Marrakech Action Plans for Statistics (MAPS). Main financial instruments are loans and grants. Lending projects are mostly long term and comprehensive in coverage. The projects typically aim at improved economic and social information for policy making and poverty reduction by strengthening planning, statistical legislations, infrastructure, human resources, data collection, processing, analyzing, archiving, and dissemination. A multi-country lending program, Statistical Capacity Building Program (STATCAP), became operational in 2004 to make investments in statistical development easier and more effective. It is designed to be simple to initiate, plan and operate.
- A \$32 million loan under STATCAP for a statistical capacity building program in Ukraine was approved by the Bank's Executive Board in 2004 and is currently being implemented. The loan includes finance for organizational and management reform, development of statistical infrastructure, modernization of computing infrastructure, technical assistance in various areas, and use of economic data in analysis and forecasting.
- In the Russian Federation as a part of the STATCAP facility a new \$50 million Project for Development of the State Statistical System (STASYS 2) became effective in April 2008. The project is now under implementation as a follow up to the STASYS project which was completed in December 2006. For the STASYS 2 Project, the World Bank finances 20% of the above amount to (i) enforce further modernization of statistics methodology in compliance with the international standards; (ii) strengthen development of modern design and technology for statistical data collection, processing, and dissemination; (iii) ensure enhancement of social statistics, and (iv) support human resource development in the statistical system.

- A STATCAP project for Tajikistan was approved in 2006, and currently under implementation. The project is being supported by co-financing from DFID and SIDA, as well as in-kind contributions from the Turkish International Cooperation Agency (TICA). The mid-term review of the project was conducted in November 2008 with quite positive findings. . The project is moving on schedule and it is anticipated that all activities will be completed by the closing date of June 2011.

- The World Bank manages a multi-donor Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (TFSCB which aims to strengthen the capacity of statistical systems in developing countries. It supports: (i) NSDS projects assisting the preparation of National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS); and (ii) Statistical capacity improvement projects aiming at strengthening the capacity in key priority areas. TFSCB also funds participation of developing country representatives in meetings, seminars and workshops. It has financed a number of projects in the region and there are currently an NSDS and capacity building project in Armenia, and capacity building projects in Kyrgyz Republic and Turkmenistan. In addition, participation of several staff of Moldovan National Bureau of Statistics in an international conference was recently funded.

- The World Bank Development Grant Facility provided grants to UNECE in the total amount of 950,000 USD to strengthen national capacity to improve gender statistics in Southern and Eastern Europe. These grants fall under the Marrakesh Action Plan for Statistics umbrella, and were used to finance the following objectives: (i) improve gender sensitivity of National Statistical Systems in order to increase availability, raise quality and improve access to data for developing, monitoring, and evaluating gender policies; and (ii) increase capacity of users to utilize statistics for policy making and how to judge the quality and availability of data at the national and regional level.

- The World Bank maintains a web site on Statistical Capacity Building which provides information on the financial instruments, including STATCAP and TFSCB, advisory services, databases, and reference materials available in support of statistical capacity building. See

<http://www.worldbank.org/data/statcap>

- The Development Gateway Foundation initiative, in which the bank works together with the DGF and the IMF, is aiming at the development of a portal website on development issues, from which users will be able to access information, resources and tools, and into which they will be able to contribute their own knowledge and experience

<http://www.developmentgateway.org>

- The Country Statistical Information Database provides information on national statistical systems useful for assessing statistical capacity and monitoring progress in statistical capacity building in developing countries. The database contains information encompassing various aspects of national statistical systems and operations, such as statistical law, national statistical strategy, statistical practice, censuses and surveys, national statistical agencies and publications, , and World Bank statistical projects. It also includes a country-level composite statistical capacity indicator based on evaluation of countries against a set of criteria in the areas of statistical practice, data collection and indicator availability, consistent with international recommendations. In addition, the database allows for cross-country comparisons of selected indicators. See

<http://www.worldbank.org/data/countrydata/csid.html>

- The World Bank provides funding to PARIS21 from its development Grant Facility for the implementation of the Accelerated Data Program (ADP), jointly implemented with the World Bank Data Group. The ADP provides support to countries in the areas of microdata documentation, dissemination and preservation. The Russian Federal Service of State Statistics (Rosstat) was introduced to the software and practices promoted by the ADP.

- A new web-based tool called the "Bulletin Board on Statistical Capacity (BBSC)" has been launched on the World Bank website. The tool will help strengthen the capacity of countries, especially IDA countries, to compile and use statistics with an overall aim of supporting the management of development results. Specifically, the BBSC: (i) presents key information on national statistical systems collected from national and international sources, including planning, funding, human resources, census and surveys; (ii) assesses countries' statistical capacity in key areas including institutional framework, statistical methodology, source data, data periodicity and timeliness through the use of a composite indicator, checklists, maps and charts; and (iii) allows users to provide feedback and updates easily and quickly with interactive features. The BBSC is available online at:

<http://www.worldbank.org/data/bbsc>

New activities

There are two TFSCB projects in the pipeline: (i) project to support UNECE led training activities to improve the capacity of the National Statistical Offices in Central Asia and East European sub-regions in production and dissemination of economic statistics; and (ii) project to strengthen sub-national capacity for analysis of living conditions in Russia. In addition, it is anticipated that the TFSCB will provide funding to strengthen training programs for the national statistical offices of the Commonwealth Independent States in the coming year.
