2. Economic Statistics

2.1 Macroeconomic statistics (Eurostat)

Theme 5.01 - Statistics for business cycle analysis

Fields of activities covered by the theme
• Improvement of the quality and the coverage of Principal European Economic Indicators (PEEIs, COM/2002/661) and enhancement of their visibility.
• Development and implementation of sophisticated statistical and econometric techniques in order to increase timeliness, length, frequency and reliability of PEEIs.
• Development and maintenance of a statistical framework for the assessment of the euro area and Member States cyclical situation.
• Provide advanced methods for data readability and interpretability.
• Preparation, implementation and follow up of guidelines for harmonising PEEI production processes and for the definition of best statistical practices.
• Development of tools for the rationalising the use of statistical and econometric techniques.

1. Work to be carried out by Eurostat in 2012

1.2 ONGOING WORK

• Production of statistical estimation to increase timeliness, coverage and length. Statistical framework for business cycle analysis based on Principal European Economic Indicators (PEEIs). Guidelines for harmonisation of PEEIs production and advanced quality measures.
• Supply of statistical PEEIs including publication, quality assessment statistical improvements and analysis of PEEIs with expected monthly or quarterly output. Integration of traditional methods with more sophisticated econometric techniques.
• Investigation of innovative statistical and econometric techniques to be used to enhance data production, quality assessment and analysis of PEEIs.
• Integrated system for improvement, quality monitoring and analysis of PEEIs implementation of methodologies for monitoring, improvememt and analysis of PEEIs. A friendly and standardised computational framework for the PEEIs.

2.1 Macroeconomic statistics (IMF)

Principal Global Indicators Website

The IMF is coordinating international efforts to improve the availability of macroeconomic data essential for tracking financial and economic development. In late 2008, the Statistics Department of the IMF created the Inter-Agency Group on Economic and Financial Statistics - involving the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), the European Central Bank (ECB), Eurostat, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Nations (UN), and the World Bank (WB)- to address economic and financial data gaps needed to monitor financial developments. One of the key outcomes of the Inter-Agency Group was the launching of Principal Global Indicators Website (PGI website) in April 2009. The PGI website brings together timely data available at participating international agencies covering financial, governmental, external, and real sector data, with links to data at websites of international and national agencies. The website is available at http://www.principalglobalindicators.org.

In December 2009 the website was revamped to allow presentation of its rich collection of data in a more user-friendly fashion by shifting emphasis to cross-country indicators---currently over forty indicators. Among the new additions include:
• Additional cross-country tables of key indicators with more data transformation in harmonized units of measurement to facilitate comparative analysis;
• Longer runs of historical data via real-time access to the underlying PGI database;
• On-line access to referential metadata which provide information on the data sources, economic concepts, or national practices used in compiling the data; and
• Visual display of key cross-country indicators.

Whilst the PGI website currently focuses on the dissemination of data for the G-20 economies, the intention is to expand it gradually to cover more countries.

Reports on Observance of Standards and Codes (ROSCs)

The IMF also conducts two - to three-week on-site missions to its member countries to assess the quality of data and assist in their further development. The ROSC data module provides an assessment of data quality in five areas of macroeconomic statistics - national accounts (NA), prices (consumer and producer price indices), government finance, monetary, and balance of payments (BOP)- based on the July 2003 Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF), as well as an assessment of whether the data dissemination practices are in accordance with those specified in the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS).

The assessments are disseminated as data modules of the Reports on Observance of Standards and Codes. As of December 2011, 125 data module ROSCs had been completed, including updates and reassessments. These include - using the IMF's World Economic Outlook country group classification - 27 from advanced economies, 27 from Africa, 9 from developing Asia, 20 from Central and Eastern Europe, 16 from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), 4 from the Middle East, and 21 from Western Hemisphere countries (including one regional central bank). Links to the published modules can be found on the IMF website at http://dsbb.imf.org (go to DQRS).

2.1 Macroeconomic statistics (OECD)

STAN Database for Industrial Analysis

Purpose

To provide a comprehensive database tool for cross-country analyses of industrial performance (competitiveness, productivity etc.) and structural change at a relatively detailed level of activity.

Objectives and outputs

The STAN database for industrial analysis provides analysts and researchers with a comprehensive tool for analysing industrial performance at a relatively detailed level of activity across countries. It includes annual measures of output, labour input, investment and international trade which allow users to construct a wide range of indicators to focus on areas such as productivity growth, competitiveness and general structural change. The industry list provides sufficient detail to enable users to highlight high-technology sectors and is compatible with those used in related OECD databases.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

STAN Database for industrial Analysis

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Development and production of a new version of STAN based on ISIC Rev. 4. with statistics to 2010. Inclusion of non-Member countries, where possible. Closer cooperation with EU KLEMS project in particular and World KLEMS project in general. Comprehensive STAN documentation in form of STI Working Paper.

Business Tendency and Consumer Opinion Surveys

Purpose

To collect and disseminate business tendency and consumer opinion survey data for OECD member countries and selected non-member economies. To promote wider use of business tendency and consumer opinion surveys in OECD member countries and selected non-member economies.

To develop international statistical standards and to encourage scientific research in this field of statistics.

Objectives and outputs

This activity involves the ongoing collection and publication of an extensive range of business tendency and consumer opinion survey data and related metadata from OECD member countries and the BRIICS.

The survey data are published in the OECD's monthly Main Economic Indicators (MEI). Data collection is co-ordinated with the European Commission, with the OECD taking primary responsibility for data collection from national sources only for non-EU OECD member countries and the BRIICS.

During the year 2010 the OECD evaluated the possibility to renew its existing international guidelines and recommendations. In co-operation with UNSD, the European Commission and CIRET it surveyed current availability of tendency sureveys internationally and the level of harmonization and adherence to existing guidelines. For 2011 the OECD will start the review of its Business Tendency Surveys handbook last revised in 2003.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

MEI_BTS_COS

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

A review of the code structure in the production database, and a consequent update of production flows.

Composite Leading Indicators

Purpose

To compile and disseminate the OECD composite leading indicators for OECD member countries and for the BRICS NMEs + Indonesia, which help analysts to assess the cyclical phase of the OECD economies and forecast its future development.

To do methodological development work and carry out scientific research in this field.

Objectives and outputs

OECD Composite Leading Indicators (CLI) are published in the monthly Main Economic Indicators publication and in a monthly press release.

The quality of existing CLIs is monitored and enhanced on an on-going basis, including the expansion of country coverage for both OECD member and non-member countries, and the development of new tools in the research software for cyclical analysis and composite indicators.

Main achievements in 2010 were the finalization of a distributable package of the production system (CACISd), setting up the dissemnination website in Clearspace, with the goal of reinforcing transparency.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

MEI_CLI

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Update CLIs for selected OECD member countries.

A pilot project testing the multivariate direct filter approach for CLI caluclation in co-operation with prof. Marc Wildi.

Changing the reference series at the core of the CLI from IIP to GDP.

Data collection:

Inclusion of additional series required for the compilation of CLIs for Brazil, China, India, Russian Federation and South Africa and for OECD member as a result of on-going review of CLI component series for each country.

Data management:

Incorporation of more detailed metadata on CLI compilation methodology in MetaStore.

Main Economic Indicators

Purpose

The OECD's Main Economic Indicator (MEI) database provides a wide range of short-term economic indicators (and associated methodological information) for OECD member and non-countries to meet the on-going requirements of a number of internal OECD users.

Objectives and outputs

Maintaining the Main Economic Indicators (MEI) database, which contains monthly and quarterly statistics (and associated statistical methodological information) for all OECD member and for all Enhanced Engagement economies on a wide variety of economic indicators for use by economic analysts, policy makers and business.

Indicators in the MEI database include: quarterly national accounts, industrial production, composite leading indicators, business tendency and consumer opinion surveys, retail trade, consumer and producer prices, hourly earnings, employment/unemployment, interest rates, monetary aggregates, exchange rates, international trade and balance of payments.

There is an on-going process of review to revise the contents of the database in order to maximise the relevance of the database for short-term economic analysis, for example, through the inclusion of new indicators reflecting new areas of analysis and policy making. Enlarging coverage also entails working with other international organisations such as IMF, ILO, ECB and Eurostat in the development of effective international standards for the presentation of statistical methodological information (metadata), and increasing the coverage and quality of statistical metadata, whilst at the same time minimising the reporting burden of member countries.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa.

Databases

Main Economic Indicators (MEI)

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

The ongoing implementation of a MEI Review undertaken in 2010 at the request of the Director.

Data collection:

On-going processes to improve the efficiency and timeliness of data capture processes.

There will also be expanded use of data from Eurostats NewCronos database and the IMF's IFS. Greater efforts will also be made to implement data and metadata exchange standards developed under the SDMX initiative.

Real-time and Revisions Database

Purpose

To make freely available on the OECD website a "real-time" database with associated revisions analysis of key short-term economic statistics derived from historically published monthly snapshots of the OECD Main Economic Indicators database.

Objectives and outputs

The concept of a real time database is to provide an information set of short-term economic statistics that would have been available to analysts at a specific point in time for the purpose of testing the likely effectiveness of econometric models in real-time. It also provides the opportunity to perform revisions analysis - i.e. to study the magnitude and direction of subsequent revisions to published statistics. A database containing MEI vintage from 1999 was developed and published on the OECD website in 2006.

The portal also provides a broader context on the issue of revisions. This primarily take the form of the revisions framework (outlining the reasons for data revision) formulated by the IMF and of the recommendations published in the OECD "Data and Metadata Reporting and Presentation Handbook".

Updated revisions analysis of GDP and a comparision of revisions between seasonally adjusted and raw series were performed in 2007 and presented at the STESWP and National Accounts working parties, and also at a number of international conferences where the database was also promoted.

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

No major changes.

Short-Term Financial and Real Indicators

Purpose

To capture in quantitative terms an important but heterogeneous and fast evolving area in globalisation of the financial markets and increased sophistication of the actors and activities in these markets.

To provide short-term economic indicators of production, sales, orders, work started and in progress and stocks for OECD member countries and

selected large emerging non-member economies.

Objectives and outputs

The Financial Indicators dataset contains financial statistics on six separate subjects: Monetary Aggregates, Interest Rates, Exchange Rates, Reserve Assets, International Trade, and Share Prices. In all cases considerable effort has been made to ensure that the data are internationally comparable across all countries presented and that all the subjects have good historical time-series' data to aid with analysis.

All the subjects under Real Indicators are classified under the following six top headings: Production, Sales, Orders, Work started, Work in progress, Stocks. Within each heading, indicators are further classified according to economic activities.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

MEI_FIN

2.1 Macroeconomic statistics (UN Statistics Division)

• Coordinate and promote work on integrated economic statistics.
• Collaborates with Eurostat in the development of handbooks on Rapid estimates and Composite Indicators.
• Promote an internationally accepted data and metadata template for short term economic statistics.
• Collect country practices on the compilation of rapid estimates and composite business cycle indicators.

2.1 Macroeconomic statistics (UNECE STAT)

Description and objectives

A regional capacity building project launched in 2010 addresses new challenges in economic statistics in the countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. Three workshops organised in 2011 were followed by a specialized workshop on seasonal adjustment techniques in 2012. Seasonal adjustment is essential for data comparability as it corrects for the different number of working days within a period and for seasonal fluctuations. Moreover, it can reveal turning points in economic development faster and more easily than any other data. A full set of training materials and guidelines will be published on the web in English and Russian to support countries in implementing the seasonal adjustment methods.

Meeting to be organized in 2012:

Workshop on Seasonal Adjustment, Ankara, 20-23 February.

2.2 Economic accounts (CIS-STAT)

National Accounts

Ongoing work:

Implementation of the System of National Accounts in the accounting practice of the CIS countries in 2012:

• Collection, analysis and dissemination of data on the key macroeconomic indicators developed on the basis of 1993 SNA concepts.
• Preparation of an abstract (Russian-English) illustrating main macroeconomic indicators of the CIS countries, and analytical report on main trends in production and use of gross domestic product in the Commonwealth countries.
• Advisory assistance to the CIS countries in refining methods of defining and reflecting economic processes and phenomena of relevance to the CIS countries in their national accounts.

New activities:

• Preparation of the plan of actions on the implementation of SNA-2008 provisions in the practice of the CIS countries and realization of selected priority directions.

2.2 Economic accounts (Delhi Group on Informal Sector Statistics)

Informal Sector

The Delhi Group on Informal Sector Statistics was set up in 1997 as an international forum to exchange experience in the measurement of the

informal sector (and, since 2003, of informal employment), document the data-collection practices, including definitions and survey methodologies and recommend measures for improving the quality and comparability of informal sector statistics. It will continue to work on the recommendations of its previous meetings. The ILO, in cooperation with members of the Delhi Group, is preparing a Manual on Surveys of Informal Employment and Informal Sector. Since its inception, the Delhi Group has met 12 times. The Manual is envisaged to be published by the ILO during 2012.

See also: http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/citygroup/delhi.htm

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2.2 Economic accounts (ECB)

Economic accounts

• Support Eurostat in and contribute to the ongoing revision of the European legislation on national accounts, i.e. the European System of national and regional accounts in the Community (ESA 2010), which is implementing the revised international statistical standards, such as the 2008 SNA and the sixth edition of the Balance of Payments Manual.

• Further develop the system of quarterly integrated accounts by institutional sector for the euro area (the area formed by those European Union (EU) Member States whose currency is the euro), also aiming at further enhancing the consistency between different statistics and its timeliness. These euro area accounts are prepared by the ECB and the National Central Banks, together with Eurostat and the national statistical institutes. The sectors covered are non-financial corporations, financial corporations, government, households and the rest of the world. Further milestones include a timelier delivery, no later than 90 days after the reference quarter, and the extension of the accounts to the 27 EU Member States.

• Contribute to the development of international statistics standards through, for example, the development of the third part of the BIS-ECB-IMF Handbook on Securities Statistics and (ii) an active participation in the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts, which following the revision of 2008 SNA, is in charge of the long-term Research Agenda.

2.2 Economic accounts (Eurostat)

Theme 2.01 - Annual economic accounts

Fields of activities covered by the theme

• Annual national accounts - main aggregates;
• Productivity and growth analysis;
• Annual non-financial Sector Accounts (ASA);
• Annual Financial Accounts (AFA);
• Pensions.

1. Work to be carried out by Eurostat in 2012

1.1 NEW WORK, INCLUDING NEW PLANNED LEGISLATION

• Economic imbalance scoreboard. Contribute to the development of the indicators and prepare their regular production;
• Update manual on regional accounts: guidance to and steering of respective task force.

1.2 ONGOING WORK

• New System of National Accounts (SNA) and new European System of Accounts (ESA);
• Specific improvements in national accounts data provided by Member States to prepare introduction of ESA2010 and its transmission programme;
• EU KLEMS (EU level analysis of capital (K), labour (L), energy (E), materials (M) and service (S) inputs): productivity and growth accounts for the EU, euro area and Member States;
• Monitoring of and Reporting on compliance with the data transmission programme;
• Implementation of NACE Rev 2 and CPA 2008 in national and regional accounts;
• Revision of ESA Transmission Programme, negotiations in the Council, transitional measures to support Member States and practical aspects related to transmission;
• Annual national accounts: collection, validation and dissemination of main aggregates data. Database maintenance and evolution. Publications. User support. Website. Compliance;
• Regular production of press releases, SiFs and contributions to horizontal and compendium publications;
• Annual national accounts: production of European annual aggregates including employment; update of the dissemination database;
• CVD compliant IT production system for national accounts;
• National accounts methodological and practical improvements: 5 projects to facilitate the implementation of the revised ESA and research related to the implementation of the Eurostat vision;
• Production of annual Institutional Sector Accounts: update of the dissemination database and website;

• Validate and disseminate data on non-financial assets for the total economy and by sector, in particular household dwellings;
• Collection, validation dissemination of SUT IOT (supply/use tables and input/output tables) data. Database maintenance and development. Compliance, process assessment, NAPS integration;
• In cooperation with Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS-JRC) to produce Supply, Use tables at basic prices for all the Member States and for EU27. To produce Supply and Use tables for EuroArea. To produce Input output tables for EU27 and Euro Area (EA);
• Production of aggregated Supply/Use tables and input/output tables for the EU and Euroarea; input into environmental accounts applications;
• Supply/Use tables and input/output tables: regular production of new releases and SiFs, contribution to horizontal and compendium publications;
• Enhanced quality assurance for regional GDP per inhabitant: inventories, quality assurance questionnaires on regional Gross Value Added (GVA) and regional population, country missions incl. follow-up;
• Estimation of regional GDP at level NUTS2 and NUTS3 and of regional household income at level NUTS2, including development of methodology based on data collected from the Member States; dissemination via Eurobase;
• Regional accounts input for publications, in particular the Regional Yearbook, two SiFs, the Eurostat Yearbook, the annual reports on the rural development and on the social situation in the EU.

Theme 2.02 - Quarterly accounts

Fields of activities covered by the theme

• Quarterly national accounts;
• Quarterly non-financial sector accounts (QSA).

1. Work to be carried out by Eurostat in 2012

1.1 NEW WORK, INCLUDING NEW PLANNED LEGISLATION

• Update Manual QNA: guidance to and steering of respective task force with Member States.

1.2 ONGOING WORK

• Quarterly National Accounts: collection, validation and dissemination of main aggregates data. Database maintenance and evolution. Publications. User support. Website. Compliance.
• Quarterly National Accounts: European annual aggregates including employment; Flash estimates GDP; quarterly releases of aggregates; update of the dissemination database.
• Quarterly National Accounts: regular production of press releases, SiFs and contributions to horizontal and compendium publications.
• Prodcuction of Quarterly Institutional Sector Accounts (QSA): update of the dissemination database, website and news release.

Theme 2.05 - Monitoring own resources

Fields of activities covered by the theme

• Annual national accounts data of Gross National Income (GNI) and Gross National Product (GNP);
• Verification of the GNI/GNP data transmitted each year by Member States;
• Verification of Member States' inventories of statistical sources and methods used to calculate GNI/GNP;
• Verification, in cooperation with DG Budget, of the figures and calculations included in Member States' VAT statements.

1. Work to be carried out by Eurostat in 2012

1.2 ONGOING WORK

• Verification of the reliability, comparability and exhaustiveness of own resource GNI data and of the own resource VAT figures and calculations transmitted by Member States.

2.2 Economic accounts (ILO)

Informal Economy

Ongoing methodological work:

• The ILO is continuing its methodological work on statistics of informal employment and informal sector employment, on the basis of the guidelines endorsed by the 17th ICLS (2003) as a supplement to the 15th ICLS resolution concerning statistics of employment in the informal sector. A technical *Manual on Surveys of Informal Employment and the Informal Sector* is being prepared in cooperation with the Delhi Group. The Handbook will be published in the second half of 2012.

• Following a request by the International Labour Conference in June 2002, the ILO continues to assist countries in the collection and

dissemination of statistics on informal employment and informal sector employment.

• In collaboration with WIEGO, the ILO will publish in 2012 an update of the publication *Women and Men in the Informal Economy: A Statistical Picture*. The publication presents the latest available national data on informal employment and informal sector employment as well as newly revised regional estimates.

Employment, Unemployment and Underemployment

Ongoing methodological work:

• The ILO will continue its methodological work to review and update the international standards on statistics of the economically active population, employment, unemployment and underemployment. The updated draft standards will be presented at the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) in 2013 for discussion and possible adoption.

• As part of the preparatory work to update the statistical standards, the ILO will convene in, June 2012, the 3rd meeting of the Working Group for the Advancement of Employment and Unemployment Statistics to further discuss the development of measures to supplement the unemployment rate.

• In collaboration with interested partners, the ILO will convene regional meetings through 2012 to inform countries about the proposed updates to the statistical standards and to expand the consultation process to a wider number of countries.

Household surveys

Ongoing methodological work:

• The ILO will continue its methodological work to develop a modular core set of model labour force survey materials based on international standards and best practices. The materials aim to serve as guiding tools for countries and practitioners' working in the design and/or review of labour force surveys or labour force modules for attachment to multipurpose household surveys.

Direct technical assistance:

• The ILO will continue to provide technical assistance to countries with the design and/or review of national labour force surveys.

Cooperatives

• Developmental work is under way to produce statistics on cooperatives in collaboration with COOP. Measurement of cooperatives will be recommended in ongoing technical assistance to countries.

2.2 Economic accounts (IMF)

Real Sector

• The IMF collaborates with Eurostat to source its real sector data for EU and EU accession countries on Eurostat's database.

National Accounts

• The IMF is permanent member of the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA) - chairing agency during 2006 and 2007. The IMF contributed to production of the System of National Accounts 2008 (2008 SNA), drawing on its expertise in real sector financial, balance of payments and government finance statistics.

• The IMF conducts training courses on the 2008 SNA and on quarterly national accounts.

• The IMF provides technical assistance in national accounts to member countries through a variety of venues, including staff missions to individual countries. It is also involved, as member of the ISWGNA, in the implementation strategy of the 2008 SNA.

• The IMF collects and disseminates national accounts data on member countries through its monthly International Financial Statistics (IFS), the International Financial Statistics Yearbook (IFSY) and the Dissemination Standards Bulletin Board (DSBB), as well as providing hyperlinks to selected individual country data systems. The IFS currently contains financial and economic statistics for 180 member countries and for the Central African Economic and Monetary Community, the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU), the Euro Area, Hong Kong SAR, Macao SAR, the West African Economic and Monetary Union, the West Bank and Gaza, and four nonmembers (Anguilla, Aruba, Montserrat, and the Netherlands Antilles). Databases related to the IFS are available to subscribers on CD-ROM. The monthly edition of IFS is available to subscribers on the Internet and the complete searchable IFS database has become available since January 2002.

2.2 Economic accounts (OECD)

Institutional Investors' assets

Purpose

This data collection integrated in the framework of the SNA covers detailed assets (including a breakdown of resident/non resident data) for a number of institutional investors (more detailed than in the SNA93). Its aim is to have more detailed information on the activities of the institutional investors (not covered by the SNA) in OECD Member countries.

An additional questionnaire is sent yearly to OECD countries in parallel with the OECD/Eurostat joint questionnaire on Financial Accounts.

Objectives and outputs

The database has been updated up to 2010, for all OECD countries and Russia.

Improvements in the coverage of the database have been achieved.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

Institutional Investors' assets

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Update and continuous improvement of the coverage, including an extension to non-member countries (EE5 and other G20).

Depending on resources allocated to the unit, quarterly data will be processed when available and used to calculate indicators.

Data collection:

Improvement of the coverage of the database.
Depending on available resources, quarterly data will be processed.

Data management:

The methodological information currently available in WORD documents might be stored in Metastore using links to these documents, when resources permit.

Human Capital Accounts

Purpose

To develop an agreed methodology for producing monetary estimates of Human Capital for the purposes of international and inter-temporal comparisons.

Objectives and outputs

A working paper that summarises the outcomes of the first phase of the project was released in October 2011 (OECD STATISTICS WORKING PAPER SERIES No. 41).

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Romania, Russian Federation.

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

1. Preparing an in-depth review of country practices in human capital measurement. This review is undertaken under the auspices of the UNECE Conference of European Statisticians (CES) and is being chaired by Geoff Bascand, Statistics New Zealand; as part of this review, we plan to circulate a 'country questionnaire' to document country practices and initiatives.

2. Documenting the OECD methodology and data sources in a technical report.

3. Drafting a working paper based on joint work with the World Bank on national wealth accounting by using direct estimates of human cpaital generated from the OECD project.

4. If available, extending the methodology to additional countries and years.

Annual Financial Accounts

Purpose

To provide unique data sets of harmonised data on annual financial accounts and annual financial balance sheets of OECD countries, according to SNA 1993, to analysts and policy makers.

Objectives and outputs

This activity mainly focuses on the collection of comparable quantitative and qualitative information on annual financial transactions carried out and on annual financial stocks held by institutional sectors of the economy in the OECD member countries.

The main objectives are to improve the quantity and the quality of information on OECD financial accounts (transmission of timely, reliable and consistent data) and to disseminate comparable tables on financial accounts (transactions) and financial balance sheets (stocks).

Russia and EE5 countries' data will be included in the databases when available.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

Annual Financial Accounts (ANA)

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

The database on annual Financial Accounts and Financial Balance Sheets will continue to be improved. All OECD countries are now covered. For some countries however, the sectoral coverage has still to be extended while for some countries, additional datasets (flows or stocks, consolidated or non-consolidated) will continue to be required.

Data for Russia, for the EE5 countries, and for additional G20 countries (Argentina and Saudi Arabia) will be included when available.

Detailed methodological information relating to Financial accounts and Financial balance sheets should be updated and included in Metastore.

Data collection:

Historical data will be added to the database as soon as countries send them. Data which are still missing for some Member countries will continue to be requested and included in the databases.

Data for Russia will be integrated (if provided) in the OECD databases; depending on resources, data for some non-Member countries (EE5 and G20) will be asked and processed according to their availablity.

Moreover, following conclusions of the 2009 and 2010 WPFS meetings, financial indicators based on financial accounts and balance sheets, and on the two other SNA-related database (on Households and Institutional investors) will be calculted and disseminated.

Data management:

Financial indicators based on these datasets are calculated and are the object of another activity: OECD Financial Indicators.

A new database system now hosts quarterly data: see the new activity Quarterly Sector Accounts (Financial part).

Annual National Accounts

Purpose

To provide, on an internationally comparable basis, a timely update of annual national accounts data to internal and external users for analytical purposes.

To provide a forum of international exchange on national accounts standards, in order to improve the relevance of SNA 93 and enhance international comparability.

Objectives and outputs

The annual national accounts database (SNA) presents a consistent set of data mainly compiled on the basis of the 1993 System of National Accounts. It contains data from 1970 whenever possible for OECD member countries.

Main series of the SNA database are presented using an "indicator" approcah in the publication National accounts at a Glance, focusing on cross-country comparisons. In this publication each indicator is associated to a text which explains in general terms of what is measured and why.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

Annual National Accounts (ANA)

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Extend the collection of data from EE countries to Brazil.

Economics Department Analytical Data Base (ADB)

Purpose

Management, co-ordination and provision of statistical data sets in support of Economics Department work described under Theme 1 (Economic Growth, Stability and Structural Adjustment). Primarily as input to the Economic Outlook assessment process, ensure timely and consistent updating of the body of largely macroeconomic statistics and calculation of subsidiary concepts necessary for corresponding analytical activities. Checking methodological soundness and consistency of data definitions against the analytical needs of the Department and in particular Country Desks. Development and maintenance of related programmes, definitions and procedures and associated metadata systems in support of analytical users.

Objectives and outputs

Maintains relevant Analytical Data Bank in support of relevant needs of ECO's macro analytical work, notably with respect to the data needs of the OECD Economic Outlook. In conjunction with STD and other statistical groups, co-ordinates, manages and extracts the relevant annual and quarterly data sets from available sources within the OECD (mostly STD), National Administrations and related publications. The primary database covers a range of statistical concepts relevant, in particular, to the assessment of the world's economic situation and developments in member country economies. These include a wide range of national accounts, wage, price and labour force, fiscal and financial accounts, exchange rates, international trade and balance of payments concepts reported on a variety of frequencies. Basic definitions and requirements are those of the economists in the Policy and Country Studies branches. The relevant statistics are used routinely in the analysis incorporated in documents for the Economic Policy and Economic Development Review Committees and are reported as supporting material in the corresponding OECD publications - the twice yearly OECD Economic Outlook and the OECD Country Survey series. The Economic Outlook data set is also disseminated as an OECD data product.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

Economics Department Analytical Database

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Main changes in content relate to the progressive inclusion of relevant statistics for the Accession and Enhanced Engagement countries over the coming year. New indicarors to help monitoring analysis will be introduced. Main technical changes in the past and coming year relate to the continuing migration to the ADB to ECO's time series data management system, incorporating direct links to in-house source data bases and the MetaStore system, the integration of Economic Outlook publications data base within the OECD.Stat system and the incorporation of relevant production metadata within MetaStore for internal and external use.

Data management:

Development of metadata link based HELP system within data management system, revisions to control and access rights for users outside of

ECO.

General Government National Accounts

Purpose

To provide, on an internationally comparable basis, a timely update of annual national accounts data for the sector of general government and sub-sectors to internal and external users. This covers detailed revenues and detailed expenditures by function of general government and subsectors.

Objectives and outputs

The project on general government national accounts began in September 2003. There are three objectives of the project: (1) improve the transmission to and dissemination by the OECD of timely and detailed data on general government; (2) enhance the comparability of the major aggregate results for general government such as general government deficit/surplus and/or general government debt.

Data are made available to member country government agencies on OLISnet thanks to OECD.Stat and to the public through dissemination in OECD.Stat and tables freely available on Internet.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Russian Federation, Slovenia.

Databases

ANA - SNA
Annual National Accounts (ANA)

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Extention the collection of data for EE countries, in particular for Brazil, India.

Household Assets and Liabilities

Purpose

This data collection aims at better knowing the households' behavior vis-à-vis risks and enables studies on the distribution of households' wealth. It refers to the SNA sector S14 - Households.

An additional questionnaire is sent yearly to OECD countries in parallel with the OECD/Eurostat joint questionnaire on Financial Accounts.

Objectives and outputs

The database has been updated up to 2010 for all OECD countries.

A better coverage of financial and non-financial assets and on detailed liabilities currently transmitted by OECD countries has been achieved.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

Household Assets and Liabilities

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

It is expected to further improve the coverage (assets and liabilities) of the database and to extend the geographical coverage to non-member countries (Russia, EE5 and G20).

When resources permit, quarterly data will be processed and used to calculate financial indicators.

Data collection:

Improvement of the coverage of the database.

Depending on resources allocated to the unit, quarterly data will be processed.

Data management:

The methodological information currently available in WORD documents might be stored in Metastore using links to these documents, when resources permit.

National Accounts for Non-member Economies

Purpose

To cooperate with non-member countries not included in the Quarterly National Accounts database and incorporate these countries into the standard OECD MEI data collection and dissemination program.

Objectives and outputs

Provide users with non-member national accounts data.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

China, India.

Databases

National accounts and prices for non-member countries

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

To remove these countries once they are incorporated into the QNA database. Only Two countries remain: China and India. This activity will finish in 2012.

OECD Financial Dashboard

Purpose

The recent financial and economic crises have underlined the importance of monitoring financial activity and position of the various institutional sectors of national economies.

The OECD Financial Dashboard has been created to respond to users' questions and needs for relevant indicators based on timely, frequent and comparable financial statistics.

Objectives and outputs

The financial indicators are constructed from financial accounts and from financial balance sheets to analyse the behaviour and performance of the various institutional sectors and to carry out cross-country comparisons.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

OECD Financial Dashboard

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

New activity.

Data collection:

New activity.

Data management:

New activity.

Productivity/Capital Services

Purpose

Four OECD Directorates have co-operated to produce a data set for productivity measures, a widely-used indicator of economic performance. The purpose of this activity is to bring together, in one place, the results of this work and make available various productivity measures as well as relevant methodological information such as the OECD Manual on Measuring Capital. The series on capital services, multi-factor productivity (MFP) and GDP per hour worked are a standard input into the Economic Department's estimate of potential output. In 2011, the OECD Productivity database by industry has been released and provides regularly updated productivity estimates by industry.

Objectives and outputs

Labour productivity indices for 30 countries and a set of capital services and multi-factor productivity measures for 20 countries are regularly updated and are available on OECD.Stat. Recent methodological developments concerned both the development and the release of multi-factor productivity estimates by industry in the OECD STAN STructural ANalysis Database and research on total economy productivity measures. A major achievement in 2011 was the publication of the OECD Productivity database by Industry (PDBi). PDBi data are updated on a regular basis and allow international comparisons in industry-level MFP measures and are fully compatible with data compiled in the STAN database.

Databases

Productivity by industry
Productivity/capital services database

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

In 2012, the productivity database at the whole economy level and the productivity database by industry will continue to be updated regularly with the aim to increase the number of available countries. Methodological developments will concern productivity indicators at the total economy level and productivity estimates by industry.

The Productivity database by industry will move to ISIC Rev.4.

Data management:

Productivity by Industry data where published for the first time in 2011. The move to the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, ISIC Rev.4 is planned for 2012, according to the release of an ISIC Rev.4 version of the OECD STAN database.

Quarterly National Accounts

Purpose

1. To provide a real time update of member and non-member countries' sets of quarterly national accounts to internal users, mainly the OECD Economics Department. Quarterly national accounts constitute a significant input into the OECD's macro-economic modelling and forecasting work.

2. To provide external users a selection of key long time series from countries' quarterly national accounts, some area totals and a consistent and internationally comparable set of data for analytical purposes.

Objectives and outputs

The OECD Quarterly National Accounts (QNA) database presents data collected from countries on the basis of a standardised OECD/Eurostat questionnaire based on SNA 1993/ESA 1995. It contains, as from 1960 whenever possible (and even before for a few countries), a wide selection of the accounts produced by the 34 member countries covering accounts at the level of the overall economy and some institutional sectors accounts.

Work is concentrated on producing relevant, reliable, consistent, comparable and timely quarterly national accounts for member countries and a few non-member economies.

The QNA publications contain a selection of the accounts most widely used for economic analysis: GDP - expenditure and output approaches (current prices and volume estimates), GDP income approach (current prices), Saving and net lending (current prices), Gross fixed capital formation (current prices and volume estimates) broken down separately by type of asset and by institutional sector, Disposable income and Real disposable income components, Population and Employment, Compensation of employees by industry, Employment by industry, Household final consumption expenditure (current prices and volume estimates) by durability and by purpose.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

Quarterly National Accounts (QNA)

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Continue to extend the coverage of the database by the inclusion of new accounts/series provided by countries.

Expand the geographical coverage of the QNA database by including more updated data from Enhanced Engagement (EE) countries,

and possibly remaining G20 countries (Argentina and Saudi Arabia).

Data collection:

Extension of the statistical content (new accounts, new sets of chained volume estimates, new seasonally adjusted series) and the time coverage (historical series) to take account of the development of QNA made in countries.

Extension of the country coverage (EE countries and remaining G20 countries).

Encourage non-EU countries to provide QNA data in SDMX format.

Source EU data directly from Eurostat validated data.

Quarterly Public Sector Debt

Purpose

This new database has been launched in the framework of a coordinated activity with the World Bank and the IMF to respond to the G20 Data Gap Initiative (Recommendation 18).

Objectives and outputs

Collect detailed and comparable quarterly data on the General Government Debt, the Central Government Debt and more broadly the Public Sector Debt.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa.

Databases

Quarterly Public Sector Debt (7PSD)

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

New activity.

Data collection:

New activity.

Data management:

Creation of this dataset and updates.

Quarterly Sector Accounts (Financial part)

Purpose

To provide financial quarterly sector accounts data of member and non-member G20 countries for internal and external users.

The G20 Recommendation 15 has identified Sector accounts (annual and quarterly) as essential statistics to monitor economies.

The OECD is responsible for collecting and disseminating detailed quarterly sectoral accounts for OECD member countries and other non-member G20 countries.

Objectives and outputs

Quarterly financial accounts and quarterly financial balance sheets have been collected in 2011 for the first time and stored in the new QASA browser during the 4th quarter of 2011.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa.

Databases

Quarterly Financial Accounts and Financial Balance Sheets

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

New activity in 2012.

Data collection:

New activity.

Data management:

New activity.

Quarterly Sector Accounts (Non-Financial)

Purpose

To provide non-financial quarterly sector accounts data of member and non-member G20 countries for internal and external users.

The G20 Recommendation 15 required identified Sector accounts (annual and quarterly) as essential statistics to monitor economies.

The OECD is responsible for collecting and disseminating of detailed quarterly sectoral accounts for OECD member countries and other non-member G20 countries.

Objectives and outputs

Continue to collect non-financial Quarterly Sector Accounts (QSA) data for EU countries in close collaboration with Eurostat; Collect non-EU QSA data through questionnaires. Release QSA data on OECD.stat for the countries that give permission to publish the data.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa.

Databases

Non-financial Quarterly Sector Accounts

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Collecting QSA data for EU countries that have not given permissions to the Eurostat for transmitting such data to the OECD, such as France and Germany.

Collecting data from non-EU countries that has not transmitted data to the OECD.

Releasing publishable QSA data on OECD.Stat.

Contribute to the IMF for releasing G20 QSA data on PGI-website.

STAN Input-Output database

Purpose

To provide a comprehensive database for cross country analyses of industrial structures, the interrelationships between consumers and producers, and the interactions between countries (e.g. as regards outsourcing and trade flows).

Objectives and outputs

The current OECD input-output database is based on detailed national accounts estimates of economic activity and interrelationships within economies. The database is based on an ISIC Rev.3 and is consistent with the latest system of national accounts (SNA93). Data for 33 OECD countries and 11 non-member countries are currently available, with latest data for many countries referring to 2005 with tables also available for most ountries for 2000 or nearest year and for the mid-1990s.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:
Argentina, Brazil, China, Chinese Taipei, Cyprus, India, Indonesia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Malta, Other, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Thailand.

Databases

STAN Input-Output database

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Expand the country coverage (e.g. non-OECD EU countries).

Measuring disparities in a National Accounts framework

Purpose

The aim of the Expert Group on Disparities in a National Accounts framework (EG DNA) is to consider how existing micro data could be used to produce estimates of disparities between groups of households in the framework of National Accounts.

Objectives and outputs

The Expert Group has begun its work in early 2011. Final results are expected by end 2012.

The main focus of the expert group in 2011 has been on assessing the availability of micro and macro information on household income, consumption and wealth, and on analysing similarities and divergences between the two types of sources (step 1).

From January 2012 Expert Group members will aim at generating results based on a simplified methodology matching the two types of sources, and having information on disparities indicators on household income, consumption and saving rates by group of household consistent with National Accounts averages and comparable across countries (step 2).

The Expert Group held two meetings in 2011. A third meeting is planned for August 2012. The final report is expected to be circulated to CSTAT by the end of 2012.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

India

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

The final report of the Expert Group is expected to be circulated to CSTAT by the end of 2012.

2.2 Economic accounts (UN Statistics Division)

National Accounts

Ongoing Work:

• Contributes as a member of the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA) to the international coordination, development and updating of the System of National Accounts (SNA), the internationally accepted statistical standard of the national accounts. The System of National Accounts 2008 (2008 SNA) is the latest version of the SNA.

• Serves as the Secretariat to the ISWGNA by providing logistical and administrative support to the research and implementation program of the ISWGNA and the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts (AEG).

• Administers and maintains the website of the ISWGNA, which provides a platform for coordination and monitoring of the research and implementation programme for the SNA. It provides links to the work programs of the ISWGNA members and the Regional Commissions and the progress on the research agenda of the SNA including the activities of the AEG. The website is available at: http://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/default.asp.

• Drafts, publishes and disseminates the bi-annual ISWGNA newsletter "SNA News and Notes" in cooperation with the members of the ISWGNA. The newsletter contains information on developments in research issues relevant for the SNA and related international standards; clarifications, interpretations and changes in the SNA; country experiences in the SNA implementation as well as publications, meetings and seminars and other relevant information.

• Drafts in collaboration with the ISWGNA members, the annual ISWGNA report to the Statistical Commission which sets out the strategy and status of progress of statistical programme for the SNA in part based on country assessments of their scope and detail of implementation of the accounts of the SNA and their conceptual compliance with the SNA recommendations.

• Undertakes methodological research on issues on the international research agenda for the SNA in collaboration with the ISWGNA with a present priority on FISIM, globalisation-related issues and emissions permits.

• Supports the implementation programme of the 2008 SNA by developing and updating supporting normative standards, training material and compilation guidance for the implementation of national accounts and supporting economic statistics.

• Delivers a statistical capacity building program for the implementation of the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics through a series of regional and interregional workshops and seminar in collaboration with the Regional Commissions and regional agencies and through a limited number of individual country technical assistance missions.

• Collects and disseminates official annual national accounts statistics from countries and publishes them in the National Accounts Statistics: Main Aggregates and Detailed Tables. The data are also available electronically through the UNdata website at http://data.un.org/.

• Prepares national accounts estimates to complement the official national accounts statistics from countries to obtain consistent and complete time series and publishes them in the National Accounts Statistics: Analysis of Main Aggregates.

• Maintains the National Accounts Main Aggregates Database which contains a complete and consistent set of time series from 1970 onwards of main national accounts aggregates and derived analytical indicators and ratios for more than 200 countries and territories. These data are available on the web at http://unstats.un.org/unsd/snaama/Introduction.asp.

• Provides services to the Committee for Contributions of the United Nations through research on the methodology of the scale of assessment (i.e. contributions to the United Nations by Member States), and the actual calculation of the scale of assessment. This also includes the provision of services to the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations in respect to the scale of assessment.

New methodological work:

• Prepare a national accounts handbook on Financial production, flows and stock in the SNA.
• Develops guidelines on the requirements for the statistical production process of economic statistics and short term economic indicators to facilitate the implementation of the 2008 SNA.
• Coordinate work to develop a handbook on input-output tables.
• Coordinate work to develop a handbook on business registers.

2.2 Economic accounts (UNECE STAT)

Description and objectives

The UNECE promotes the implementation of the new global standard: 2008 System of National Accounts (2008 SNA) which provides a comprehensive framework for producing economic accounts adapted to the new policy needs and the fast changes in the global economy. This work is part of the Global Implementation Programme for the 2008 SNA, mandated by the UN Statistical Commission. It is undertaken in consultation with the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts which coordinates globally the implementation of the standard. The UNECE group of experts on national accounts (organized jointly with Eurostat and OECD) will meet in 2012 to discuss emerging issues of interest for countries such as measurement of services, households' wellbeing and internationalisation of economies.

In 2012, the UNECE will also focus on supporting the countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) and South-East Europe (SEE) in developing their implementation plans for the 2008 SNA. As a response to the country needs, expressed at a 2011 regional meeting on implementation of the 2008 SNA, workshops will be held to address the specific problems of the countries in this region.

Meeting to be organized in 2012:

Group of Experts on National Accounts, Geneva, 30 April - 4 May.

2.2 Economic accounts (World Bank)

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 the English version of the SNA 2008 has been published, and will be translated to all UN languages. The World Bank supports the implementation of the 2008 SNA in developing countries through activities of its regular work program of statistical capacity building. The World Bank is preparing two handbooks complimenting the 2008 SNA aimed specifically at supporting national accountants in small developing countries. The first of these is the *2008 SNA - Concepts in Brief*, and the second an accompanying implementation guide, the *2008 SNA - Implementation in Brief*. The World Bank is also developing an e-learning course on National Accounts, which will be provided free of charge on the web.

2.3 Business statistics (CIS-STAT)

Distributive Trade

Ongoing work:

In the distributive trade for 2012:

Monthly collection, processing, analysis and publication of data:

• On volumes of retail trade and catering enterprises turnover through all sales channels (for trading organisations and the sales of goods at retail markets, in current prices);
• On volume changes in retail trade and catering enterprises turnover (in current and constant prices);
• On average consumer prices for selected kinds of consumer goods at trade enterprises of the capitals of the Commonwealth countries.

Quarterly data:

• On volumes of retail trade turnover by small size enterprises (in current prices).
• On stocks of goods in retail trade, in current prices;

Half yearly data:

• On volumes of retail trade turnover by form of ownership (in current prices).

Yearly data:

• On the structure of sales of food and non-food goods in value terms in current prices and indicators of sales in quantity;
• Statistics on the intermediary activities of various specialized exchanges (goods, raw materials, stocks and shares, currencies, etc);
• Availability to the public in the CIS countries of selected consumer durables;
• Sales of alcoholic beverages per capita;
• Preparation of economic reports on the situation at the consumer market for goods and services in the CIS countries in 2011.

Business Statistics

Ongoing work:

• Collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of quarterly and yearly data in 2012-2013 on profits of enterprises and organisations and the settlement situation of enterprises and organisations, both domestically and with other countries of the Commonwealth.

Market Services

Ongoing work:

In the field of market services for 2012 it is envisaged to collect, process and publish:

Monthly data:

• On the supply of market services, including personal services rendered to population through all channels of sales, in current prices;
• On changes in the supply of market services to population, in current and constant prices.

Half yearly data:

• On the supply of market services to population by forms of ownership and small size enterprises, in current prices.

Yearly data:

• On the structure of market services in value terms (in current prices) and in quantity of sales.
• Preparation of economic reports on the situation at the goods and services markets in the Commonwealth countries in 2011.

Industry Statistics

Ongoing work:

• Collection, processing and publication of data on industry in CIS countries:
- Monthly: output of the main types of industrial products in quantity, industrial output in current prices, and indices of industrial output (in constant prices), both as a whole and by main kinds of economic activities (branches of industry);
- Yearly: output of the main types of industrial products by product category;
forecasts of output of rolled ferrous metal products, steel pipes, cotton fibres, cement, selected kinds of machine building products, extraction and production of the main types of fuel and energy resources.
• Preparation of analytical reports on the situation and development of selected industrial branches.

2.3 Business statistics (ECB)

• Compilation of quarterly euro area business demography indicators.

• Compilation of monthly seasonally adjusted new passenger car and commercial vehicle registrations: data reflect the number of the passenger and commercial vehicles data registered in a particular country/region of the EU based on raw data from the European Automobile Manufacturers Association (ACEA).

Jointly with the EU Commission (DG Enterprise and Industry):

• Continue the collection and compilation of statistics through the joint survey on the access to finance of euro area enterprises, including small and medium-sized enterprises. Comprehensive surveys are run every two years together with the European Commission, and part of the survey, focusing on issues of conjunctural relevance, is run by the ECB every six months.

Coordinated at European and international level:

• Support the design and use of a unique legal entity identifier by developing an infrastructure for the accurate identification of all legal entities engaged in economic transactions.

2.3 Business statistics (Eurostat)

Theme 3.01 - Annual business statistics

Fields of activities covered by the theme

• Industrial production statistics (Prodcom);
• Structural Business Statistics (SBS);
• Statistics on Foreign Affiliates (FATS);

• Modernisation of European Enterprise and Trade Statistics (MEETS).

1. Work to be carried out by Eurostat in 2012

1.1 NEW WORK, INCLUDING NEW PLANNED LEGISLATION

• Simplification of the SBS Regulation requirements: analysis and agreement with Member States on the simplifications to Regulation (EC) No. 295/2008, in particular for Annexes V-VII.
• Provision of back-casted Structural Business Statistics data on an aggregated level in NACE Rev.2 for reference years 2005-2007 to users. Treatment of data transmitted in 2010 and in 2011 by Member States on a voluntary basis and estimating the missing data to calculate EU aggregates.
• Production of the report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of Regulation 716/2007 on Foreign Affiliates statistics.
• Commission Decision on the annual work programme for 2013 for the implementation of Decision No 1297/2008/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the MEETS programme. Adoption of the annual work programme with the priorities for the actions to be undertaken in 2013 and the budgetary allocations under this Decision.
• ESSnet consistency: Identify and analyse differences in definitions and provide recommendations on possible adjustments.
• Continued quality improvement of SBS, Prodcom and FATS data: annual quality reports produced and analysed according to the governing regulations. The necessary follow-up actions are undertaken. Improved quality checking of data.
• Drafting a manual on the overall methodological framework for business statistics.
• Re-engineering of the business statistics production process in Eurostat.

1.2 ONGOING WORK

• Production and dissemination of Structural Business Statistics (SBS) according to Regulation No 295/2008. Validation, processing and dissemination of data received from Member States and other countries on Eurostat website.
• Provision of the headline indicator for the monitoring of the Europe2020 targets on the Innovation Union.
• Integrate employer business demography and high growth enterprise statistics into regular data production. Framework for data collection (legal or gentlemen's agreement) ready for adoption. Contribute to the Entrepreneurship Indicator Programme (EIP) programme by providing the business demography related indicators.
• Validation and processing of annual Prodcom data received from Member States and other reporting countries. Dissemination of national data and EU aggregates on the Eurostat website.
• Publication of 2013 PRODCOM list.
• Production and dissemination of statistics on Foreign Affilates according to Regulation (EC) No 716/2007. Validation, processing and dissemination of data received from Member States and other countries on Eurostat website.
• Final decisions on the feasibility of collecting pilot study variables on a regular basis on Foreign Affiliate Statistics will be taken.
• Successful implementation of Decision 1297/2008/EC establishing the Programme for the Modernisation of European Enterprise and Trade Statistics (MEETS).
• Follow-up of developments in accounting, appropriate reporting and preparation of documents on accounting and statistics.
• Provision of statistics for the analysis of global value chains e.g. by remodelling and by carrying out the survey on international sourcing and by extensive micro-data linking in order to enhance the value of Structural Business Statistics (SBS) and other business statistics. ESSnet on measuring global value chains continues its work.

Theme 3.02 - Short-term business statistics

Fields of activities covered by the theme

• Production of short-term business statistics (STS) for industry, construction, retail trade and other services;
• Consolidation and improvement of quality.

1. Work to be carried out by Eurostat in 2012

1.2 ONGOING WORK

• Short Term Business Statistics (STS): timely production of the existing indicators and their publication, mainly in the form of continuous updating of Eurostat's database on the web site and in the form of monthly news releases for a selected set of indicators, among the Principal European Economic Indicators (PEEIs).

2.3 Business statistics (OECD)

Business Statistics and Entrepreneurship

Purpose

i) To provide official annual data for detailed industrial and service sectors (at the 4 digit ISIC level), consistent and relevant for international comparison in order to meet policy makers' and analysts' needs for structural business statistics for detailed economic sectors. Three databases are currently maintained.

ii) To develop a program of internationally-comparable indicators of entrepreneurship, its determinants and its impacts, to inform policy-analysis and policy-making. This activity is called Entrepreneurship Indicators Program (EIP).

Objectives and outputs

i) The databases on structural business statistics (SSIS) and (BSC), updated through a joint questionnaire with UNIDO, contain annual data on core economic variables, relating to both industry and services, at a very detailed level of ISIC revision 3 (up to the 4th digit level). They cover such variables as production, value added, investment, number of enterprises, employment, wages and salaries, and hours worked. Statistics are derived mainly from structural business surveys, censuses and administrative sources.

The BSC database contains this information broken down by enterprise size class.

ii) In the framework of the Entrepreneurship Indicators Programme, Business Demography Indicators are collected formally and include indicators of birth, death and survival rates and numbers of high growth firms - all based on common concepts developped in the Eurostat-OECD Manual on Business Demography Statistics published in 2007.

The main achievement of this activity include the publication Structural and Demographic Business Statistics (March 2010) and the Statistics Brief No. 15 on Measuring Entrepreneurship (November 2010).

The Entrepreneurship Indicators Programme Steering Group held its sixth meeting in December 2010. This was followed by a Workshop jointly organised by the OECD and Eurostat. The Workshop focused on two categories of entrepreneurship determinants: culture and capabilities.

In addition to the Steering Group, the Secretariat has developed an EIP Network so that additional countries and organisations may remain abreast of the Entrepreneurship Indicators Programme work and participate on an ad hoc basis.

The EIP was presented in several official internal meetings and in Workshops and Conferences held outside the Organisation.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovenia.

Databases

SDBS - Business Demography Indicators
SDBS - Structural Business Statistics

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Expected improvements to SDBS statistics in 2012 include:

• The extension of the country coverage in the collection of comparable business demography statistics;
• The development of indicators by gender;
• The publication of the second issue of Entrepreneurship at a Glance in May 2012.

Data collection:

Extension of the country coverage in the collection of entrepreneurship statistics is expected. It is also expected that other entrepreneurship indicators will be identified and added.

Foreign Affiliates in Services

Purpose

To give detailed data on the role played by multinationals in the services sectors of the OECD countries, which concerns inward and outward foreign direct investment.

Objectives and outputs

The database on Foreign Affiliates Trade in Services covers the following variables: number of enterprises, turnover, value added, employment, personnel costs, investments, exports and imports, R&D expenditure and R&D personnel, for inward and outward activities of multinational firms. Data on the activity of parent companies are also requested.

Databases

Foreign Affiliates Trade in Services Database (FATS)

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

This database is going to be merged with the AFA database in a new AMNE database.

The 2010 questionnaire already includes these changes.

The cooperation with EUROSTAT should also become more important in 2011 going towards same definitions and questionnaires, except for the survey on parent companies.

Micro-data on enterprises

Purpose

To develop a large scale database of firm-level information, comparable across countries and industries. The database will contain a broad range of firm-level data, including employment, sales, labor costs, assets, etc., as well as information on the capital structure of firms.

This micro-database aims to complement existing OECD databases on industry and services (SBS, STAN, etc.).

Objectives and outputs

The micro-database is built on the ORBIS database of Bureau Van Dijk covering around 65 million companies across different industries and countries over several years. This database collects information on a broad range of financial and industrial information at the firm-level.

Given that the structure of the original database is not meant to serve research purposes, data is being extracted in a format suitable for analytical work. In addition, a thorough process of data cleaning and double checking is being undertaken to guarantee/increase the quality of the data.

In order to assess the coverage of the original database across industries and countries, existing databases will be used to assess the representativeness of the data.

The database is designed to support the analytical activities of different OECD directorates.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Asia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Europe, Georgia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Other, Peru, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, South Africa, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela.

Databases

ORBIS

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

• Update the OECD Orbis database with a new architecture of the database, covering additional company and financial information, and as well ownership data with high quality;
• Develop more concrete definition of high growth firm and some possible work on Zephyr and micro enterprises;
• Investigate comparability or representativeness of ORBIS data with official micro-data available;
• Further identification of multinationals and business groups;
• Intra-firm trade estimates.

Data collection:

More comparable information is expected on business demography and Entrepreneurship statistics, especially on the basis of the new Eurostat-OECD manual on Business Demography Statistics.

Production and Sales Indicators

Purpose
To provide short-term economic indicators of production, sales, orders, work started and in progress and stocks for OECD member countries and selected large emerging non-member economies.

Objectives and outputs

All the subjects under the Production and sales are classified under the following six top headings: Production, Sales, Orders, Work started, Work in progress, Stocks. Within each heading, indicators are further classified according to economic activities.

A review of core indicators took place in 2010, with an aim of streamlineing the area, and prepare for a less co-ordinated operation between subjects within the MEI database and publications.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

MEI_REAL

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

A review to streamline this area is planned.

2.3 Business statistics (UN Statistics Division)

Industrial Statistics

Ongoing activities:

• UNSD continues the collection, processing and dissemination of global industrial commodity production statistics and maintains the industrial commodity statistics database containing data for about 200 countries and areas and more than 600 commodities. Production data is being provided in physical quantities and monetary values.

• UNSD continues compilation and dissemination of Index Numbers of Industrial Production for countries, geographic regions and the world;

• Industrial statistics are published in UNSD's Industrial Commodity Statistics Yearbook, in the UN Statistical Yearbook and in the Monthly Bulletin of Statistics. Industrial Commodity Statistics datasets and the General Industrial Statistics Dataset are available in electronic format.

New activities for 2012:

• Further development of the industry statistics web-site, especially with respect to short-term indicators.
• Conduct of regional workshops on manufacturing statistics.

2.3 Business statistics (UNECE STAT)

Description and objectives

The UNECE aims to ensure that the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia and South-East European countries implement statistical business registers, which are indispensable tools for efficient data collection and for the production of business statistics. UNECE, in cooperation with Eurostat and OECD, will follow-up on the meeting of September 2011 to develop a set of international guidelines on statistical business registers. In 2012, UNECE and Eurostat will undertake a biennial survey for assessing the development of business registers in the EECCA countries. Efficient use of statistical business registers will allow to integrate economic data from a wide variety of sources and thus to improve the efficiency of production processes which is very important in the conditions of limited resources and growing user demand for statistical information.

2.3 Business statistics (UNIDO)

Industrial Statistics

i) Ongoing activities

• UNIDO in collaboration with OECD compiles and disseminates worldwide key industrial statistics at the 2-, and 4-digit levels of ISIC. As per UN

mandate UNIDO collects data directly from NSOs for non-OECD member countries while OECD collects data from its member countries and provides them to UNIDO to complete the global coverage of the UNIDO industrial statistics database system.

• UNIDO started producing data on quarterly trends of manufacturing production in 2011.

• Data received from NSOs are screened, adjusted and supplemented with UNIDO estimates as before, then will be stored in the UNIDO Industrial Statistics Database (INDSTAT).

• In 2011, UNIDO continuing implementing ISIC Rev 4 in its database. However, the full implementation depends on the number of countries which can regularly report data by ISIC Rev.4.

• UNIDO continues to maintain the ISIC (Rev.3) version of its Industrial Demand-Supply Balance (IDSB) Database.

• UNIDO is preparing the publication of "World statistics on mining and utilities 2012". This is the first publication on world mining and utility statistics since 2010. The publication has been sent out to National Statistical Offices for comments and feedbacks.

• UNIDO publishes Quarterly Report on the World Manufacturing Production.

ii) Methodological work that can go beyond 2011

• In 2011 UNIDO continued working on implementing of imputation method. Initially, this method will be applied to INDSTAT 2 database.

iii) New activities to be undertaken in the next year 2012

• "World statistics on mining and utilities 2012" will be published.

• A collection of methodological papers on nowcasting and imputation is expected to be published.

• Further work will be carried out in implementation of SDMX for data exchange with OECD and other international organizations.

• A number of technical assistance projects for industrial capacity building in developing countries will be undertaken.

2.3 Business statistics (Voorburg Group)

Objective

• The objective of the Voorburg Group is to establish an internationally comparable methodology for measuring the constant price outputs of the service industries. The focus of the Group is to develop concepts, methods and best practices in the area of services. The Group has contributed over the years to building up and sharing a considerable and growing body of knowledge on Service Sector statistics. It has promoted international cooperation in the development of standards and assisted in resolving statistical and measurement challenges in the Services Sector.

Ongoing Methodological Work Plan

• In the last few years, the Voorburg Group has adopted a more structured approach in terms of its work plan and proceedings, in order to produce more concrete deliverables. In acknowledging the parallel and equally important development of **turnover (output measures), prices and classifications**, the Group has made an explicit effort to better balance its agenda among these three major areas. This new orientation was initially reflected in the 2006 meeting agenda and has continued through 2011, contributing to the great success of these meetings.

What was accomplished in 2011 and what is planned for 2012?

2011

At the 2011 meeting, the following Industry/Industry Groups were selected for mini-presentations:

1. Technical Testing
2. Insurance/Other Financial Intermediation (Except Life Insurance)
3. Waste Management/Waste Treatment
4. Maintenance and Repair of Motor Vehicles

The 2011 meeting also included special sessions on cross-cutting topics, including Distributive Trades, Airline Quality Change and Advertising Quality Change, Manufacturing Services, and Research and Development.

2012

For 2012, the following Industry/Industry Groups were selected for mini-presentations:

1. Industrial Machinery
2. Water treatment and Distribution Services
3. Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation Services (Turnover/Output only)
4. Consumer and Household Goods Repair and Maintenance (Turnover/Output only)

Sector Papers

2011

At the 2011 meeting, the following sectors were presented and adopted:

1. Banking and Credit
2. Reference rates and Negative Prices
3. Adjusting Quality Change
4. Distributive Trades

2012

At the 2012 meeting, the following 4 sector papers will be presented:

1. Technical Testing
2. Maintenance and Repair of Automobiles
3. Insurance/Other Financial Intermediation (Except Life Insurance)
4. Waste Management/Waste Treatment

The 2012 meeting also will include a new kind of paper, "Updated Sector Papers," covering Sea and Coastal Water Transport, Air Transport, Telecommunications, and Computer Programming.

2012

No revisited sector papers are planned for the 2011 meeting. However, an ambitious agenda has been proposed. The meeting will include the new Updated Sector Papers as well as cross-cutting topics, including an issues paper on Airline Quality Change and Advertising Quality Change; and a session on Operational Efficiency Strategies for Supporting the Collection, Processing, and Dissemination of Service Statistics.

And, in addition to its work on the **Mini-presentations and Sector Papers and Cross-Cutting Topics**, the Group will continue to obtain and disseminate country report information on the industry/industry groups to be covered next year.

Looking Beyond 2012

Potential Sectors:

Designation of possible Industries and Assignments for Voorburg Group 2013:

Mini-Presentations:

Electricity (Generation, Transmission, Distribution, etc.), among possibly others.

Sector papers:

Commercial and Industrial Machinery; Water Treatment and Distribution Services; Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation Services; and for Consumer and Household Goods Repair and Maintenance.

Meeting in 2012

• The next annual meeting of the Voorburg group is tentatively scheduled for October 1st to 5th, 2012 in Warsaw, Poland.

New website:

All the papers from the previous meetings of the Voorburg Group, going back to 1987, can be searched through our new website at: www.voorburggroup.org. This website has been redesigned and expanded to provide additional information.

2.3 Business statistics (World Bank)

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/ or from the Open Data site at http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/doing-business-database.

• 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 4,800 projects in 139 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 Sectoral statistics (CIS-STAT)

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2.4 Sectoral statistics (ECB)

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2.4 Sectoral statistics (Eurostat)

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2.4 Sectoral statistics (FAO)

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2.4 Sectoral statistics (ILO)

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2.4 Sectoral statistics (IMF)

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2.4 Sectoral statistics (OECD)

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2.4 Sectoral statistics (UN Statistics Division)

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2.4 Sectoral statistics (UNECE TIM)

2.1 Macroeconomic statistics

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2.4 Sectoral statistics (UNECE TRA)

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2.4 Sectoral statistics (World Bank)

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2.4 Sectoral statistics (World Tourism Organisation)

2.1 Macroeconomic statistics

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2.4.1 Agriculture, forestry, fisheries (OECD)

Indonesia: Review of Agricultural Policies

Purpose

Calculate producer supporte estimates for Indonesia. Integrate Indonesia in OECD agricultural databases.

Objectives and outputs

Publication of PSE results for Indonesia. Integration of Indonesia into a regular Monitoring and Evaluation process of agricultural policies.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Indonesia

Databases

PSE database for Indonesia

OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2012-2021

Purpose

To provide an annual update of statistical information and projections by country for OECD members, the OECD area, selected non-member countries, other developing and least developed countries and regional and world aggregates, of supply and use balances for cereals, oilseeds, biofuels, sugar, meats, dairy and fish products up to 2021.

Objectives and outputs

To maintain a database with detailed supply and use information for most temperate zone agricultural commodities. The tables provide detailed information for production, consumption, trade, stocks and prices in OECD countries and a large number of other countries including China, Argentina, Brazil, India, South Africa, Russia and other CIS independent states and many smaller countries and regions in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Most series cover the period from 1970 to the most current year and include updated annual projections for up to ten years in the future.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

South Africa.

Databases

The Agricultural Commodities Database

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Pilot with Prognoz.

Producer and Consumer Support Estimates in OECD Countries and selected economies

Purpose

To collect, process, evaluate and publish data on support to agriculture in OECD countries. The activity also provides staff with a database for various research and analysis activities of the Directorate. This is a joint activity between the "Agricultural Policies and Environment", the "Development" and the "Policies and Trade in Agriculture" Divisions of the Trade and Agriculture Directorate.

Objectives and outputs

To update the Producer and Consumer Support Estimate annual database and to calculate the various indicators of support to agriculture. The data are used to evaluate agricultural and other policies in OECD countries, mainly in the annual Agricultural Policies in OECD Countries Report, which is reviewed and approved by the Working Party on Agricultural Policies and Markets.

The data collected and the method used to calculate the indicators of support are reviewed both internally, and externally by the Working Party on Agricultural Policies and Markets, on an annual basis. These review processes improve the data quality as well as the methodology used in the calculations.

In this context, a new classification of the component parts of the support estimates was implemented from the 2007 Agricultural Policies in OECD countries Monitoring and Evaluation report. The database was extended to cover the new member countries in 2009 and 2010. A user friendly tool is being developed on the website for greater availability of the quantitative and analytical information to the public.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

The 2012 report covers the OECD countries.

The major innovation will consist in an in-depth chapter on innovation as well as the pursued developments to design the web site for improved dissemination of statistical information.

Review of Fisheries in OECD Countries - 2012

Purpose

To collect and present data for the publication Review of Fisheries. To provide staff, and other potential users, with a database for research and analysis purposes. The latter applies to the Policy Reviews as well as other activities of the Division. To provide other Directorates with data on fisheries resources.

Objectives and outputs

The principal purpose is to collect and make available data on a consistent basis among member countries (and observers) of statistics relevant to fisheries i.e. landings (harvest) and processing, fleet, fishers, employment, trade (via the ITS database), aquaculture and government financial transfers. The data are used nationally, principally for reporting purposes and internationally (e.g. OECD), for analytical purposes. Data also serve

as reference for other international organisations and as a means for cross-checking and reconciling information from national sources.

Questionnaires and tables are sent (annually) to national correspondents following discussion and approval by the Committee for Fisheries. Data are collected and disseminated in the Review of Fisheries Statistics. Data published are also accessible via the public fisheries web site and more recent series through the Committee Web Site. At the international level co-ordination takes place among agencies involved in fisheries statistical programmes through the Co-ordinated Working Party (CWP) on Fisheries Statistics. The OECD is in close co-operation with the FAO and EUROSTAT in the collection of fisheries data. This is done, inter alia, with a view to avoid overlapping activities.

The data collected (and the procedures) are reviewed by the Committee for Fisheries on an annual basis. Internationally, improvements are carried out through the CWP.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Chinese Taipei, Russian Federation, Thailand.

Databases

Review of Fisheries in OECD Countries

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Continued improvements in metadata and comparison possibilities across member countries. The Government Financial Transfer (GFT) data are now included in the database. Data are now available to the public via the fisheries web site. Chinese Taipei and Thailand have been included since 2006. A major overhaul of the database took place in 2005.

2.4.1 Agriculture, forestry, fisheries (UNECE TIM)

Activity 11.1: Collection, processing and dissemination of forest sector statistics

Description and objectives

Collection and dissemination of data on forest resources, production and trade of forest products, and indicators of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM).

Activities and output

• Provide timely and relevant forest statistics, including data on forest resources, production and trade of forest products, wood energy and indicators of SFM.

• Collect and disseminate data on production and trade of forest products, through the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (JFSQ), in cooperation with FAO, Eurostat and International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO).

• Work on European Forest Outlook Study to collect, review and prepare data for inclusion in models (EFI, Alterra, Hamburg University).

• Data collection/data management:
- Qualitative and quantitative indicators on sustainable forest management for next State of Europe's Forests (SoEF);
- Work with International Data Providers (IMF, Eurostat, ILO) to locate and use data for SoEF;
- Forest Products Statistics, including prices of forest products;
- Wood Balance.

• Dissemination of statistical products:
- Timber Committee's website: http://timber.unece.org/index.php?id=84 in Excel, PDF and HTML formats;
- CD-ROMs;
- On-line data on "State of Forest and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007" available through the UNECE Statistical Database;
- FRA 2010 results to official meetings, contacts in countries, other fora;
- Joint Wood Energy Enquiry (JWEE) to energy and forest sector, including database and analysis, including at meetings;
- Publications, e.g. the Forest Products Annual Market Review;
- Reports to governing bodies, particularly the Joint Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics.

Organizations and groups involved

FAO
UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Management and the Team on Forest Sector Outlook
Eurostat
International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO)

Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE)

Activity 11.2: Analytical and methodological work on forest sector statistics

Description and objectives

Analytical and methodological studies on different issues in the area of forest sector statistics, including Forest Sector Country Profiles. Methodological improvements in areas such as forest resource assessment and wood balances. Analysis of forest resources, sustainability of forest management, and forest products markets.

Activities and output

Analytical products:
• UNECE regional input to the global Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) 2010 (to be published by FAO);
• Forest Products Annual Market Review, published as a Study Paper;
• Forest Sector Country profiles, published as Discussion Papers;
• Outlook Study.

Methodological work:

• Activities by the Team of Specialists on Eastern Europe on forest resources and sustainable forest management, on forest products markets and marketing, on policies and institutions.
• Discussions with Member States at the Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics on methodological issues.
• Create and maintain terms and definitions, specifications and classifications in consultation with partners and stakeholders, in particular for the FRA.
• Provide inputs to international statistical classifications, e.g. Harmonised System, International Standard Industrial Classification.
• Establish a concept of National Wood Resource Balance.
• Pursue conversion factor work to improve understanding of relationships between products and standing timber.
• Develop methodology and definitions for Joint Wood Energy Enquiry with IEA, FAO and Eurostat.
• Cooperate with Joint Research Centre (JRC) which is carrying out work in real-time analysis of fires and increasing use of national forest inventory information.
• Organization of the meetings of the Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics (annual sessions, intergovernmental, usually in March).
• Organisation of the annual meetings of the Inter-secretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics (membership: UNECE, FAO, Eurostat, ITTO, OECD, EEA, CEC).
• Organisation of the meetings of the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Forest Policies and Institutions (membership: UNECE, FAO, MCPFE).
• Organisation of the meetings of the Teams of Specialists.

Organizations and groups involved

Commission for Environmental Cooperation
European Environment Agency
Eurostat
FAO
International Energy Agency
ITTO
JRC
OECD
Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE)

Activity 11.3: Technical cooperation on forest sector statistics

Description and objectives

Capacity building in member countries through workshops and meetings of national correspondents, and through the guidelines for the implementation of international projects, like Forest Resource Assessment (FRA).

Activities and output

• Work with member countries through Team of Specialists to complete replies to State of Europe's Forests report.

Organizations and groups involved

European Environment Agency

FAO
Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE).

2.4.2 Energy (CIS-STAT)

Electricity Statistics

Ongoing work:

Collection, processing and publication of data:

• Monthly: on the production of electric energy;
• Yearly: on the production of electric energy by kind of power stations; the electric-power balance of individual Commonwealth countries; forecasts of electric energy production.

2.4.2 Energy (IEA)

Activities of OECD-IEA

1) Improving the quality of energy statistics necessitates both a top down approach and bottom up approach. As regards the top down approach, it is essential that policy makers are fully aware of the importance of reliable and detailed energy statistics for any sound energy policy. The IEA takes every single opportunity to address the needs for better statistics and more resources allocated to statistics. For instance, in October 2011, the IEA held its bilateral Ministerial Meeting, and again, statistics was one of the key points discussed in the meeting. Ministers explicitly stated the importance of detailed and reliable statistics for any sound energy policy.

2) As regards the bottom up approach and the need to improve the expertise of statisticians working on energy statistics, Eurostat and the IEA continue to extend the coverage and the outreach of their joint Energy Statistics Manual. On top of the 9 existing languages, the Manual has been translated in Indonesian in 2011.
The IEA continued to produce an annual Reporting Card to assess the performance of OECD Member countries regarding the submission of their Annual Questionnaires. This has proven to be a very effective way of giving a feedback to the countries highlighting issues and strong points.

3) IEA together with the other 6 organisations behind the JODI initiative held the 8th World JODI Conference in October 2011. The Conference took place in Beijing (China) and was very well attended by countries, organizations as well as by oil companies and oil analysts. This conference confirmed the turning point observed 2 years ago in Quito in the development of the initiative the emphasize was again more on the users side than on issues related to data collecting. Analysts were telling the participants how they like the JODI database and their wish list for further expanding the quality and the coverage.
However there is a need to fix the database once for all and to eliminate obvious anomalies and to encourage all countries to be as transparent as possible. Progress should be assessed at the next IEF Summit in Kuwait in March 2012.

4) InterEnerStat which gathers 25 organisations either collecting or using energy statistics has contributed to a global agreement on the definitions of all energy products and flows. In February 2011, the UN Statistics Commission approved the list of definitions of energy flows and products prepared by InterEnerStat.
After the harmonization of definitions, the next step should be the harmonization of questionnaires between organizations in order to limit the burden passed to countries through multi reporting. Currently four organizations, namely Eurostat, IEA, UNECE and APEC, use the same questionnaires to collect their annual statistics. The objective is to have, at least, UN to join the group organizations using the same questionnaires (or a compatible one).

5) Energy efficiency continues to be high on the political agenda. At the IEA Ministerial Meeting in October 2011, the IEA launched the 2011 edition of the IEA Scoreboard. This year's edition is dedicated to energy efficiency and uses for a large part the statistics collected for the first year in 2010-2011 through a new questionnaire on statistics for energy efficiency indicators.
The IEA is currently working on a new Manual on statistics for energy efficiency indicators which should be available in 2012. The Manual will include a compilation of good and best practices from many countries around the world on what data to collect for what indicators. The practices will cover surveys, modeling, metering and administrative sources for four sectors: industry, services, transport and households.

6) To ease the reporting burden passed to its Member countries, the IEA has developed a very friendly web interface for the submission of the annual questionnaires to the IEA. After the success of the use of this interface for annual questionnaires, the IEA has now extended the interface to monthly reporting. Almost all OECD countries now use this interface for reporting both monthly and annual questionnaires.

7) In 2011, the IEA has launched a Training and Capacity Building programme which covers a wide spectrum of fields from statistics to modeling and policy. Energy statistics is the main field of activities with 2 weeks of training each year: one in March and one in October. For the first year of implementation of the programme, the IEA received 80 applications in March and 120 in October for only 30 seats available. This shows the need for training on energy statistics worldwide.

8) After the successful Energy Statistics Working Group meeting held at the end of 2010, the IEA together with Eurostat have started to

implement the changes to the questionnaires proposed at the meeting and agreed by the participants and later on by the European countries in their June 2011 meeting in Luxembourg.

Priority objectives for the methodological work to be taken in the next two years

1) JODI: Extension of JODI to natural gas and selected annual data. This was due for 2011 but although some organisations have started collecting monthly gas statistics, the JODI gas initiative should officially be launched in 2012.

2) InterEnerStat: After the harmonization of the definitions, the next step for the InterEnerStat initiative should be the harmonization of the questionnaires between organizations.

3) Energy Efficiency Indicators: The IEA will finalise its manual on statistics for energy efficiency indicators: what indicators, to build, what data are needed, how to collect the data, etc.

4) The IEA will be working on an SDMX format to allow countries to report their questionnaires or for data users to access IEA statistics .

5) The IEA will improve the access to its energy statistics through a redesign of its web page. The new page should allow to find more quickly the data they look for with fewer clicks.

6) The IEA and Eurostat will finalise the implementation of the changes to the joint IEA/Eurostat/UNECE questionnaires for being operational for the 2012 data.

Meetings

The 7th meeting of the Oslo Group (UNSD)

Location: Finland
Description: Oslo City Group 7 co-organised by Finland, UNSD and the Oslo City Group Secretariat. The IEA, being the Chair of the InterEnerStat initiative, take an active role in the workshop.
Date: Fall 2012

The 5th InterEnerStat Meeting

Location: Paris
Description: After the harmonization of the definitions of energy products and flows, the IEA intends to organize the next meeting of the InterEnerStat partner organizations to focus on harmonization of training material and training session.
Dates to be decided (end of 2012)

A JODI conference on natural gas

Location: Qatar
Description: To launch the extension of the JODI initiative to natural gas, the IEF Secretariat together with the other 6 JODI organizations will organize a world conference on JODI gas.
Date: February 2012

A workshop on energy efficiency indicators

Location: Paris
Description: As a follow up to the first year of collecting statistics through the energy efficiency template and before the launch of the manual on how to collect statistics for energy efficiency indicators, the IEA will organize a workshop on the three dimensions of energy efficiency indicators: statistics, analysis and policy making.
Date: Mid March 2012

Training sessions

Location: Paris
The IEA will conduct two training sessions on energy: one in March 2012 and one in October 2012. The sessions are opened to all countries world wide. Information can be found on the IEA website on the training page.
Dates: March 2012 and October 2012.

2.4.2 Energy (UN Statistics Division)

Energy Statistics

Ongoing work:

• UNSD continues to maintain the most comprehensive database of worldwide energy statistics (production, trade, stock changes, bunkers and consumption) covering more than 200 countries and areas and time series from 1950;
• UNSD continues to publish the Energy Statistics Yearbook and the Energy Balances and Electricity Profiles on an annual basis;
• Data sharing arrangements between UNSD and IEA/OECD continue to reduce the data collection burden.

Activities for 2012:

• Preparation of the Energy Statistics Compilers Manual (ESCM) which provides practical guidance in the implementation of IRES, including collection of country practices;
• Organization of training workshops for developing countries;
• Update and improvement of the UN Energy Statistics Database, including collection, processing and dissemination arrangements for both data and metadata according to the recommendations provided in IRES;
• Work on improving transparency of oil statistics in collaboration with other international organizations active in this area (APERC, Eurostat, IAE/OECD, OLADE, OPEC and IEFS) through the Joint Oil Data Initiative (JODI);
• Further development of the energy statistics web-site.

2.4.3 Mining, manufacturing, construction (OECD)

Steel

Purpose

To provide the statistical background needed for policy discussions in the Steel Committee. Statistics are also produced for publications on steelmaking capacity in non-OECD economies.

Objectives and outputs

To provide participants of the Steel Committee with a broad range of information on the world steel industry and related raw material markets in order to enhance transparency and facilitate discussion by member and non-member economies on challenging policy issues facing the industry. More specifically, the statistical work includes gathering data on steel supply (capacity, production), demand, prices, trade, employment, and trade policy measures, in addition to market data on raw materials used in steelmaking (iron ore, coal, coke, ferrous scrap, and ferroalloys).

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Asia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Europe, Georgia, Guatemala, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Other, Peru, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, World.

2.4.4 Transport (CIS-STAT)

Transport Statistics

Ongoing work

• Collection, processing, analysis and publication of transport data for the Commonwealth countries:
- Monthly: carriage of goods and passengers, cargo and passenger volumes for all modes of transport, and freight carried on main railway lines by cargo type.
- Yearly: availability of units of rolling stock by purpose, length of railway lines in operation by category (as of the end of the year).

• Preparation of analytical reports on the operation of transport.

2.4.4 Transport statistics (UNCTAD)

Maritime Transport

Ongoing work:

• Annual data on the world merchandise fleet by flag of registration and type of ship with the latest 2011 data. The statistics are released in the UNCTAD Handbook of Statistics, on-line under UNCTADstat, and in the annual Review of Maritime Transport.

• The annual UNCTAD Liner Shipping Connectivity Index, by country with the latest 2011 data. The statistics are released in the UNCTAD Handbook of Statistics, on-line under UNCTADstat, and in the annual Review of Maritime Transport.

• Annual data on the world merchandise fleet by country of ownership for the 35 largest vessel-owning countries, included each year in the UNCTAD Review of Maritime Transport.

• Annual containerized port traffic, by country, included each year in the UNCTAD Review of Maritime Transport.

• Annual World Seaborne Trade, by country groupings, included each year in the UNCTAD Review of Maritime Transport.

• Annual and for some time series quarterly data on vessel prices, orders, and demolitions, published annually in the UNCTAD Review of Maritime Transport.

• On-line port traffic statistics available under UNCTADstat ranging from 2008 to 2010. The data present the total number of containers handled by a port per country.

2.4.4 Transport statistics (UNECE TRA)

Activity 12.1: Collection, processing and dissemination of transport statistics

Description and objectives

Collection and compilation of transport statistics, including data on motor traffic, road traffic accidents and rail traffic. Development and maintenance of the on-line UNECE Transport Statistics Database in order to maintain good quality, relevant, user friendly and timely transport statistics.

Activities and output

• Provide good quality, relevant, user friendly and timely transport statistics.
• Regular collections and dissemination of transport statistics, in cooperation with International Transport Forum and Eurostat, including data on motor traffic, road traffic accidents and rail traffic.
• Use of PC-Axis for disseminating data collected via the regular questionnaires.

Data collection
• Common questionnaire for the Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics (with International Transport Forum and Eurostat).
• Addition of supplementary chapters to the Common Questionnaire for Transport Statistics (gas transport via pipelines, transport by bus and coach).
• Questionnaire on Road Traffic Accident Statistics (with International Transport Forum).
• Continue to streamline data collection procedures in the field of transport and road traffic safety and to review user needs on a permanent basis, including those of other UNECE inter-governmental bodies.
• Target solutions to improve the collection of statistics in problematic areas, as indicators of sustainable transport, including, but not limited to the following items:
  - Statistics on road traffic (vehicle-km);
  - Statistics on the transportation by buses and coaches;
  - Statistics on the transport of dangerous goods;
  - Statistics on transport of gas through pipelines;
  - Statistics on transport to and from seaports and inland waterways ports (hinterland connections);
  - Statistics on high speed rail transport.

Dissemination - Publications (online)
• Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics (jointly with International Transport Forum and Eurostat).
• Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America, annual publication.
• Maps and data on E-Road Traffic Census.
• Maps and data on E-Rail Traffic Census.
• "Flyer(s)" on selected transport indicators.
• Dissemination of main transport data through the online UNECE Statistical Database.

Organizations and groups involved

International Transport Forum
EC (DG MOVE, Eurostat, ERA)
Central Commissions for Navigation on the Rhine (CCNR)
Danube Commission.

Activity 12.2: Methodological work in transport statistics

Description and objectives

Development of appropriate and common methodologies and terminology for the harmonization of statistics to promote the availability of comprehensive, timely and reliable statistics for sustainable transport planning and analysis and to improve international comparability of transport statistics. The work includes methodologies for the collection and compilation of statistics on road, rail, inland waterway, pipeline and combined transport, on road traffic accidents and indicators of sustainable transport. It is done in cooperation and coordination with other UNECE bodies and related international organizations.

Activities and output

Improved international comparability of transport statistics
• Classification system for transport statistics of goods (NST 2007).
• Maintain the Glossary of transport statistics and recommendations to Governments on motor traffic and rail traffic censuses in cooperation with International Transport Forum and Eurostat. The Glossary of transport statistics (4th edition, prepared jointly with the International Transport Forum and Eurostat) will be continuously updated.
• Results of the 2010 E-road and E-rail censuses based on the relevant resolutions adopted by the Inland Transport Committee.

Pilot questionnaires
- Pilot questionnaire on transport statistics of gas through pipelines (with International Transport Forum and Eurostat) adopted in 2010 to be circulated and its results to be reviewed.
- Pilot questionnaire on road traffic performance to be circulated at a pan-European level.
- Pilot questionnaire on passenger accessibility to rail systems in cooperation with European Railway Agency (ERA).

Publication (online)
• Handbook on transport statistics by buses and coaches.

Meetings
• Annual Meeting of the Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6) (Geneva, 8-10 June 2011).
• Inter-secretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (UNECE, International Transport Forum and Eurostat). Three meetings per year, with the location rotating between Geneva, Paris and Luxembourg.
• Workshop(s) on how to improve data collection for certain countries by the use of the online common questionnaire.
• Workshop(s) for member States which are not yet collecting statistics on transport of dangerous goods.

Organizations and groups involved

International Transport Forum
EC (DG MOVE, Eurostat, ERA)
Central Commissions for Navigation on the Rhine (CCNR)
Danube Commission

2.4.4 Transport (OECD)

Annual Transport Statistics

Purpose

To provide annual transport information presenting disagregated statistical data in the transport sector.

Objectives and outputs

Data are collected in a harmonised way to facilitate comparisons between modes of transport and between countries by means of the Common Questionnaire developped jointly between three international organisations: Eurostat, ITF and UNECE.

Data cover topics such as infrastructure, rolling stock, human resources, investment, transport, traffic and energy consumption for different inland transport modes.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

Databases

Transport Statistics - Common Questionnaire

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

ITF is developping a corporate database to integrate the information collected by means of the Common Questionnaire. The coporate database is planned to be ready towards the end of 2012.

Data collection:

Upgraded version of the WEB questionnaire.

International Database of Taxes and Changes for Road Freight Transport

Purpose

To provide indicators for efficiency and impact on competition of taxes and charges for transport in order to allow international comparisons.

Objectives and outputs

The final report provides a framework for international comparisons and discusses the economic principles for efficient systems of taxation. It provides a basis for addressing the questions "what is the right level for transport taxes" and "what kinds of charges should be used".

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

No major changes.

Investment in Transport Infrastructure

Purpose

To provide an annual update of statistical information on transport infrastructure investment, for all ITF countries, on total gross investment and maintenance expenditure.

Objectives and outputs

After processing the data, quality checks were carried out to select reliable time series to be made available on the web site along with a short analysis of trends.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Ukraine.

Databases

Investment in Transport Infrastructure

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Data quality was improved by using more appropriated deflators when available.

Quarterly Transport Statistics

Purpose

To provide harmonised information on selected basic quarterly indicators in order to compare the latest inland transport trends between countries.

Objectives and outputs

To publish results every three months on the ITF web site, on a country by country basis with 4-5 months lag maximum (data for the first quarter is collected in June and published in July). Available series cover good transport in T-km, passenger transport in P-Km, road traffic in V-Km, brand new vehicles registration, car fuel consumption, road fatalities, imports and exports at current prices and industrial production.

Country by country data tables are available, as well as graphs showing trends for both individual countries and selected groups of countries.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Ukraine.

Databases

Short-term trends survey

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Starting with the publication of the 2nd quarter of 2009 results, an analytical report based on seaonnaly adjusted data is published each quarter published with the data on the ITF WEB site.

Information on air and maritime transport are integrated in the analysis to provide a global view on the transport activity.

An annual leaflet "key Transport Statistics" based on data for the 4 quarters is published each year in May for the ITF annual Summit in Leipzig.

Transport Sector Trends Analysis

Purpose

To provide a first analysis of both passenger and freight transport trends, as well as road accident trends. A short list of selected indicators are collected for that purpose.

Objectives and outputs

To publish an analysis of the transport situation in different geographical regions. The publication also gives the latest statistics on the situation of the transport market in ITF countries and presents charts which help to show what changes have occurred since 1970.

Because it is published earlier than any other comparable study, this report provides first-hand figures about passenger and freight transport as well as road accidents.

Since 2008 the publication also includes information on investment and maintenance expenses in transport infrastructures.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia, Ukraine.

Databases

Trends in the Transport Sector - Leaflet

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

The publication covers all transport modes including maritime and air as well as investment and maintenance expenses on transport infrastructures.

2.4.4 Transport (UN Statistics Division)

Ongoing work:

Compilation of statistical series on international maritime transport and registration of new motor vehicles for dissemination in the Monthly Bulletin of Statistics (MBS) and the MBS Online; compilation of statistical series on civil aviation for dissemination in both the MBS and the UN Statistical Yearbook.

2.4.5 Tourism (CIS-STAT)

Tourism Statistics

Ongoing work:

In statistical study of tourism over the period 2012 (on a yearly basis):

• Collection, processing, and publication of data on international tourism of the Commonwealth countries:
- number of arrivals of international visitors (number of trips) by purpose of trips and countries;
- number of persons going abroad (number of trips)by purpose of trips and countries;
- expenditures on international tourism (inbound, outbound).

• Preparation of analytic reports on international tourism in selected CIS countries.

2.4.5 Tourism (ILO)

Tourism Statistics

• On the basis of an agreement which sets the framework for cooperation, the ILO and the World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) will continue collaborating in the area of employment and decent work in tourism. The agreement was approved by the ILO Governing Body at its 301st Session (March 2008) and ratified by the General Assembly of the UNWTO. Prior to the agreement, a new chapter on employment in the tourism industries was prepared and included in the 2008 International Recommendations for Tourism Statistics.

• The agreement is geared towards (a) improvement of reliability of data on employment in the tourism industries; (b) setting up and testing of a core set of decent work statistical indicators for measuring progress towards decent work in the tourism industries; (c) development of international guidelines on best practices of measuring employment in the tourism industries.

• In line with the agreement, a joint ILO/UNWTO publication entitled Technical Guide on Best Practices of Measuring Employment in the Tourism Industries will be prepared and published in 2012. The Guide will become an integral part of the International Recommendations for Tourism Statistics 2008 Compilation Guide to be produced in 2012 by te UNWTO and the UNSD.

2.4.5 Tourism (OECD)

Tourism

Purpose

To meet the 2012-2016 Mandate of the Tourism Committee: a) improve the measurement of tourism services in OECD economies by addressing government and industry information needs and promoting the tourism satellite account; b) contribute to the dissemination of data on tourism economics and to a more effective use of such data for business and policy analysis and decision-making processes; and c) work in complementarity with other international organisations.

Objectives and outputs

In 2012, the third edition of "OECD Tourism trends and policies 2012" will be released. For the first time, it will be undertaken in cooperation with the European Committee. It will therefore contain augmented statistical data on member and selected non-member countries (54 countries). These data will be collected by two methods: a questionnaire will be addressed to countries; data extracted from OECD data bases. On the other hand, efforts will be made towards the dissemination of data and analysis on tourism economics at national and local levels. Special efforts will tend to promote the use of Tourism Satellite Account to public and private tourism stakeholders. In 2012, the activity on "Evaluating and Measuring Competitiveness in Tourism" will aim to identify a set of core/key indicators for measuring the overall performance and competitiveness of a country in tourism. At a later stage it will also include a pilot testing with voluntary countries.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

Tourism.

2.4.5 Tourism (World Tourism Organisation)

Tourism Statistics

The World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) Statistics Department collects, analyzes, publishes, standardizes and improves tourism statistics, and promotes the integration of these statistics within the sphere of the United Nations system.

Objective of the Statistics and Tourism Satellite Account Programme

To foster the comparability of tourism statistics and the macroeconomic analysis of tourism activities by means of internationally agreed standards, and to design the required guidance, initiatives and tools (e.g. TSA) for their implementation.

Programme of work 2012

A. Reinforcement and promotion of international comparability of basic tourism statistical data and TSA data according to the IRTS 2008 and TSA: RMF 2008;
B. Dissemination of basic tourism statistical data and TSA data among key users; fostering the macroeconomic analysis of tourism;
C. Cooperation on statistics in the UN System;
D. Capacity Building for Member States to develop their national System of Tourism Statistics (tourism statistics and TSA).

Economic statistics meetings

UNWTO Committee on Statistics and Tourism Satellite Account (World Tourism Organisation)
Location: UNWTO headquarters in Madrid, Spain
Link: http://www.unwto.org/statistics/index.htm?q=en/statistics
From: date to be confirmed

Statistics Capacity-building Programme on Tourism Statistics for Asia (World Tourism Organisation)
Location: Thailand
Description: 3rd workshop plus Regional Seminar
Dates: 5 to 9 March

Statistics Capacity-building Programme for Russian-speaking European countries and Georgia(World Tourism Organisation)
Location: Azerbaijan
Description 2nd workshop
Dates: June/July to be confirmed

Statistics Capacity-building Programme for French-speaking African countries (World Tourism Organisation)
Location: Africa, host country to be confirmed
Description: 1st workshop
Dates: to be determined

Training the Trainers Workshop (title to be confirmed)
Location: UNWTO headquarters in Madrid, Spain
Description: training on UN-recommended methodology for tourism statistics and TSA for selected UNWTO consulting experts
Dates: to be confirmed

2.4.6 Banking, insurance, financial statistics (CIS-STAT)

Financial Statistics

Ongoing work:

Collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of data over the period 2012-2013 (monthly, quarterly, yearly):

• Banking statistics (credit extended, deposits of population, emission of money, interest rates on credits, credit indebtedness, number of credit organizations, investments, securities and the currency market).
• Statistics relating to insurance activity.
• Assistance to Commonwealth countries in improving financial statistics, including the formulation of proposals to improve statistical reporting, adaptation of international standards in statistics relating to money in circulation and credit to national circumstances in the organisation of statistics in these countries, and formulation of recommendations on the application of new methods and standards.

2.4.6 Banking, insurance, financial statistics (IMF)

Monetary and Financial Statistics and Financial Soundness Indicators (FSIs)

• The IMF provides technical assistance in monetary and financial statistics to member countries through a variety of venues, including staff missions to individual countries. Each year, the IMF organizes courses on monetary and financial statistics at regional training centers.

• The IMF collects monetary and financial statistics on member countries and disseminates most important data in the International Financial Statistics (IFS) and the Data Standard Bulletin Board (DSBB), as well as providing hyperlinks to selected individual country data systems. The monthly edition of IFS is available to subscribers on the Internet and the complete searchable IFS database has become available since January 2002. As well, the data are available on CD-ROM.

• The quarterly IFS Supplement on Monetary and Financial Statistics, which was introduced in September 2006 to disseminate monetary and

financial statistics for countries that report data using the standardized report forms (SRFs) in accordance with the MFSM was discontinued in 2009 and its output consolidated within the main IFS publication. SRFs provide a substantial portion of the information needed for the IMF's balance sheet analysis. Full migration to SRF-based reporting is expected to be completed by mid-2012.

• The IMF's Compilation Guide on Financial Soundness Indicators (FSIs), which covers not only the financial soundness of banks but also other institutional sectors, was published as an official IMF document in 2006. To support and coordinate efforts by national authorities to compile cross-country comparable FSIs, the IMF conducted a coordinated compilation exercise (CCE) for FSIs with 62 countries participating on a voluntary basis. The first public release of regular reported data and metadata took place in July 2009. Efforts are now concentrated on updating the reported data, disseminating historical data, and increasing the number of reporting countries.

• Training courses on FSIs are offered through the IMF-sponsored regional training centers.

• The IMF collaborates with the ECB to source monetary and financial statistics for EU and pre-in countries through a "gateway" arrangement that minimizes reporting burdens on countries.

• In July 2007, the Working Group on Securities Databases (WGSD), originally established in 1999, was reconvened in response to various international initiatives and recommendations to improve information on securities markets such as those from the Committee on the Global Financial System and Finance Ministers of the G-8. The WGSD is chaired by the IMF and includes the Bank for International Settlements, the European Central Bank, and the World Bank as members. Selected experts from national central banks, who have participated actively in various international groups that have identified the need to improve data on securities markets, were also invited to contribute to the deliberations of the WGSD. The WGSD agreed to produce a Handbook on Securities Statistics, which is the first publication of its kind to focus exclusively on securities statistics. Part 1 of the Handbook, which focuses on debt securities issues, was published in May 2009 on the IMF website. Part 2 of the Handbook, dealing with securities statistics holdings, was published on the IMF website in September 2010.Part 3 of the Handbook is expected to be published in 2012.

2.4.6 Banking, insurance, financial statistics (OECD)

African Central Government Debt Statistical Yearbook

Purpose

Borrowing requirements by governments in Africa to finance their budget deficits are met, to a large extent, by funds raised on financial markets and by non-marketable debt via bi-lateral, multi-lateral and concessional loans. Debt management techniques and policies can influence substantially the functioning of capital markets and the development of new financial instruments. As a consequence of globalisation, cross-border government borrowings have become more significant. Government debt instruments attract both institutional and retail investors and have an important share in the portfolios of fund managers.

The focus of the African central government debt statistical yearbook is to provide comprehensive quantitative information on African central government debt instruments i.e. marketable debt and to the extent possible the non-marketable debt as well, in all African countries. The coverage of the data is limited to central government debt issuance and all bilateral, multilateral and concessional debt and excludes therefore state and local government debt and social security funds.

Statistics are derived from national sources based on a questionnaire prepared under the auspices of the OECD Project on African Public Debt Management and Bond Markets.

Individual country data are presented in a comprehensive standard framework to facilitate cross-country comparison. Accompanying country methodological notes describe the details of debt instruments in each country and provide information on the institutional and regulatory framework as well as on selling techniques of debt instruments. This publication could not have been accomplished without the active contributions by African debt managers and the generous financial contribution by the Icelandic government.

Countries included are: Angola, Cameroon, Gabon, Kenya Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda and Zambia.

Objectives and outputs

The African central government debt statistical yearbook provides greatly improved statistics on African central government debt instruments and debt stocks. The focus of the statistics is to analyse in detail marketable and non-marketable debt instruments in African countries with a view to providing an analytical tool, primarily to government debt managers but also to financial analysts from commercial financial institutions, research institutions, central banks, international financial institutions, government agencies, etc. The intention of the OECD Project on African Public Debt Management and Bond Markets is to disseminate annually revisions and updates in the form of paper and electronic editions.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Other.

Databases

African Central Government debt statistical yearbook

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Third edition will contain revisions and updates from previous editions.

Bank Profitability - Financial Statements of Banks

Purpose

To compile comprehensive statistics based on financial statements and balance sheets of banks in order to analyse the developments in the profitability of the banking sector of OECD countries.

To provide detailed methodological country notes on the institutional and geographical coverage, the degree of consolidation, the structure of the banking system, the various activities of the banks covered, specific information on individual items, the sources of the data.

Objectives and outputs

The database and publication "Bank Profitability" provide statistical and methodological information to assess the changes in the state of health of national banking systems of OECD countries. They include data on the income statements and balance sheets of a number of bank groupings as well as on the structure of the national financial systems. The statistics relate to all institutions which conduct ordinary banking business, i.e. institutions which primarily take deposits from the public at large and provide finance for a wide range of purposes.

Banking indicators calculated on the basis of the primary data are also provided.

The database has been updated up to 2009 for all countries which were able to provide these data, which is a great improvement in timeliness.

Methodological notes complementing the data have been revised.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Russian Federation.

Databases

Bank Profitability - Financial Statements of Banks

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

The management of the Bank Profitability database has been provisory suspended in 2011, due to a lack in resources allocated to the Financial Statistics team and to a reorientation of STD priorities.

Data collection:

No change planned because the management of this database is suspended in 2011.

Data management:

None.

Fast-track data collection from largest pension funds worldwide

Purpose

The main goal of this exercise is to help policymakers gain a better understanding of investment strategies and risk management conducted by some of the world's leading pension funds. Further, the study will attempt to explain the extent to which differences in liability structures and country-specific regulation explain differences in the management style of funds.

Objectives and outputs

The questionnaire intends to collect quantitative and detailed qualitative information on investment rate of return, asset allocation, derivatives and operating costs. It also includes detailed questions on pension funds' investments in infrastructure.

In 2011, 23 pension funds in Australia, Brasil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, Italy, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, Portugal, South Africa, Spain and the United Kingdom participated in the study.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Colombia, Peru, South Africa.

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Coordination by pension funds' regulators will be encouraged to increase sample size and geographical coverage.

Financial Literacy Measurement

Purpose

To report the levels of financial literacy amongst the adult population in surveyed countries and be able to compare across countries.

Objectives and outputs

Data collection and processing has been undertaken, and an analytical framework has been created.

Initial data analysis has been undertaken, and various measures of financial literacy have been created. The results will be made available in 2012 through one or more working papers.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Armenia, Malaysia, Peru, South Africa.

Monitoring of Insurance Markets: Global Insurance Statistics

Purpose

The recent financial market turmoil and rapid changes in financial markets and financial systems are creating new challenges for financial statistics. The increased complexity and potential opacity of financial sector operations resulting from globalisation and rapid innovation call for further transparency, better and more comprehensive data, and an enhanced capacity to analyse this data.

With a view to contributing to the development of macro-overview of the insurance market, the current standard questionnaire allows to collect key aggregate statistics relating to premium volume, balance sheet and income statement items (e.g., total assets, shareholder equity, technical provisions, net income), and portfolio investments.

Objectives and outputs

In the new framework of insurance statistics, the questionnaire is divided into two parts. The first part includes data on premium and key variables pertaining to the financial strength and profitability of the insurance sector. Data for this first part are collected during the first half of the year.

The second part includes more detailed information on premiums, claims, commissions and expenses, as well as information on reinsurers. Data for this second part are collected during the second half of the year.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Hong Kong, Malaysia, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovenia.

Databases

Insurance

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Further improvements foreseen within the framework of this project will include:

• Accelerating the collection of statistics to enhance timeliness;
• Expanding the current compact set of core statistics and indicators to include additional indicators;
• Organisation of a Global Seminar on Insurance Statistics in Asia. The participation of selected additional countries in the regions will be sought at this occasion;

• Seeking greater synergy between existing OECD insurance and pension statistical activities;
• To provide economic globalisation indicators of insurance statistics to analyse and measure the market share of foreign companies in the global market;
• Extending the geographical scope.

Monitoring of Private Pension Systems: Fast-track data collection

Purpose

The collection of key infra-annual statistical information is meant to improve the timeliness of the release of the OECD funded pension statistics to the public and to other international organisations.

Objectives and outputs

The fast-track data collection allows to collect recent statistical data on the pension fund sector. Only key variables are collected, such as total assets, investment rates of return and funding/solvency levels for DB pension plans.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Brazil, Bulgaria, Colombia, Costa Rica, Hong Kong, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Other, Peru, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Slovenia, South Africa, Thailand, Ukraine.

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

The variable 'Net investment return' is now collected to allow the OECD to calculate the investment rate of return, based on a formula agreed by the Task Force on Pension Statistics.

Data collection:

In 2012, countries will be invited to provide data on the net investment return.

Monitoring of Private Pension Systems: Public Pension Reserve Funds

Purpose

Funding is growing in what have been traditionally exclusively PAYG-financed, social security systems. Funding in these systems takes the form of reserve funds, which in most cases are institutions with their own governing board and look like pension funds in many aspects.

The main goal of the statistical exercise on Public Pension Reserve Funds is to collect in-depth and comparable information on these funds, with a focus on assets, asset allocation, and performance.

Objectives and outputs

Since 2003, the OECD collects statistical information on Public Pension Reserve Funds. Between 2003 and 2008, data were collected through information publicly available on the internet. Since 2009, a statistical questionnaire has been developed and allows to collect more in-depth and comparable information on Public Pension Reserve Funds, which is released on a yearly basis in the newsletter Pension Markets in Focus.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina.

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

A new database will be created in Statworks to include data collected each year from Public Pension Reserve Funds.

Overview of private pension systems (methodological survey)

Purpose

The yearly review of funded pension system at national level intends to provide a benchmarking tool to develop further the understanding of pension systems and their compliance with the OECD classification for funded pension plans and funds. It also provides information related to the statistical data coverage of the OECD Global Pension Statistics.

Objectives and outputs

This annual survey provides comprehensive detailed metadata for the users of funded pension statistics. The survey, based on a standard template, allows the compilation of comprehensive and detailed metadata individually for all OECD and some non-OECD countries. Standard information allows bilateral comparisons and provides, to a large extent, the underlying differences that explain the cross-country discrepancies in funded pension statistics. The survey also allows the monitoring of methodological improvements over time and provides valuable information on the compliance of systems with the OECD Classification of funded pension plans and funds.

Further reading: OECD (2005), Private Pensions: OECD Classification and Glossary, OECD, Paris.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Brazil, Bulgaria, Colombia, Costa Rica, Hong Kong, Macedonia, Other, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Slovenia, Thailand.

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

No major changes.

Retirement Savings Adequacy

Purpose

The main goal of this research is to assess whether people are saving enough for retirement and to examine the role that private pensions play and could play in the retirement readiness of the working age population.

Objectives and outputs

The project consists of three phases:

• Phase 1 assesses how much individuals have to finance retirement, considering all pension sources, mainly state pensions, occupational pensions and personal pensions.
• Phase 2 extends the sources available to finance retirement by incorporating other savings that people can tap into at retirement (e.g. life insurance and housing).
• Phase 3 compares retirement income with a suitable reference income to determine whether people are sufficiently prepared to finance their retirement.

In 2012, calculations will be done for 2-3 countries.

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

In 2011, calculations of retirement savings adequacy have begun for Germany and the United States. The analysis will be extended to additional countries for the period 2012-2013.

Financial Indicators

Purpose

To capture in quantitative terms an important but heterogeneous and fast evolving area in globalisation of the financial markets and increased sophistication of the actors and activities in these markets.

Objectives and outputs

The Financial Indicators dataset contains financial statistics on six separate subjects: Monetary Aggregates, Interest Rates, Exchange Rates, Reserve Assets, International Trade, and Share Prices. In all cases considerable effort has been made to ensure that the data are internationally comparable across all countries presented and that all the subjects have good historical time-series' data to aid with analysis.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

MEI_FIN

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

None expected.

Pension Monitoring

Purpose

In order to ensure that pension reforms are both financially and socially sustainable, it is essential to monitor the outcomes of changes in pension system parameters and rules. The activity uses a microeconomic approach which is particularly suitable for international comparison of pension policies. Prospective individual benefit entitlements from mandatory pension arrangements are modelled for full-career workers at different earnings levels. The framework uses the same economic assumptions for all countries and thereby abstracts from non-pension factors, which often distort international comparisons of pension systems. See www.oecd.org/els/social/ageing/PAG.

Objectives and outputs

To monitor pension systems and pension policies in OECD countries, to collect, up-date and analyse information on pension system rules and parameters and to model prospective pension entitlements for standard retirement, early retirement and interrupted careers. The output of this activity is published in regularly updated reports.

The second edition of Pensions at a Glance Asia/Pacific will be released in early 2012. The Women and Pensions report will be published in March 2012. Regional reports covering LAC and ECA will be produced during the year and work will commence on an update to Pensions Panorama.

In 2011:

• The main Pensions at a Glance publication was released and is available at www.oecd.org/els/social/pensions/PAG
• Key data were disseminated in OECD.Stat via http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=ELSPENSIONS
• An on-line Pension calculator was updated, via http://www.oecd.org/document/12/0,3343,en_2649_34757_43024076_1_1_1_1,00.html
• Most indicators related to pensions are available on-line in MS-Excel format via www.oecd.org/els/social/pensions/PAG

The fifth edition of Pensions at a Glance will be published in early 2013. The report will include updates of the models with 2010 parameters.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Ecuador, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Malta, Peru, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Databases

Pension monitoring database

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

The range of countries covered under the Pensions at a Glance umbrella is constantly expanding with the update for PaG Asia being released in early 2012. Additional regional publications are also planned to cover the LAC and ECA regions with an update of Pensions Panorama also beginning later in the year. Further areas of analysis will concentrate on periods of career absense because of unemployment as well as the release of the Women and Pensions report in March 2012.

Data management:

The number of indicators covered in the data will be increased leading to the creation of a pensions database.

2.4.6 Banking, insurance, financial statistics (World Bank)

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 has published a comprehensive database of national Financial Sector Development Indicators including key data on banking, equity markets, and bond markets.

2.5 Government finance, fiscal and public sector statistics (CIS-STAT)

State Budget Income and Expenditure

Ongoing work:

Collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of data on State budget income and expenditure in the Commonwealth countries over the period 2012-2013 (quarterly and yearly).

• Preparation of analytical reports on financial situation in the Commonwealth countries.
• Assistance to the Commonwealth countries in improving financial statistics, including the formulation of proposals to improve statistical reporting and adapt international standards (especially in government finance statistics) to national circumstances in the organisation of statistics in these countries.

2.5 Government finance, fiscal and public sector statistics (ECB)

• Continue improving the quality of quarterly data on euro area government deficit, debt and the deficit-debt adjustment.

• Continue improving the quality of annual government finance statistics and of the metadata information on revisions and deficit-debt adjustments.

• Carry out methodological work on the recording of the government interventions to support financial markets and institutions and their impact on the government deficit and debt figures.

2.5 Government finance, fiscal and public sector statistics (Eurostat)

Theme 2.04 - Government finance statistics

Fields of activities covered by the theme

• Assessment of debt and deficit data in the context of the Excessive Deficit Procedure (EDP);
• Annual non-financial government accounts (AGOV);
• Quarterly government accounts (QGOV).

1. Work to be carried out by Eurostat in 2012

1.1 NEW WORK, INCLUDING NEW PLANNED LEGISLATION

• Preparation and follow-up of the Financial Accounts Working Group and EDP processes.
• Introducing improved quality management framework in the area of government finance statistics and particularly promoting quality management standards adapted to the specificities of the Excessive Deficit Procedure compilation process to be implemented by National Statistical Institutes. A Working Group GFS quality management will be created.
• Monitoring and assessing the implementation of the European Statistics Code of Practice in the context of the process of Excessive Deficit Procedure compilation.
• Identifying, monitoring and assessing risks or problems from upstream data sources with a view to initiating corrective action at the earliest possible point (Early Warning System (EWS)).
• Monitoring and assessing the appropriateness, exhaustiveness and timeliness of the upstream public finance data by reference to ESA requirements, within an Excessive Deficit Procedure context.
• Participation in the coordination of formal Excessive Deficit Procedure methodological visits to Member States as provided for under Article 11b of Regulation (EC) No. 479/2009.
• Monitoring and assessing the effectiveness, reliability, integrity and transparency of the process of data flows between the public entities and the statistical offices in charge of the final compilation of Excessive Deficit Procedure data.
• Promoting accrual based public accounting, including an active role within the International Public Sector Accounting Standards, which is close to ESA-based principles.
• Implementation of Article 16 of Regulation (EC) No 479/2009 across the EU, regarding the responsibilities of national authorities and officials in the context of Excessive Deficit Procedure, with Eurostat's involvement to work towards a harmonised EU framework.
• Development of methodology and approach towards a more robust system of quality management for use in public finance statistics for Excessive Deficit Procedure purposes.

• Risk management for public finance statistics within context of CoP. Development of methodology and approach towards monitoring and assessing the adequacy of the quality of upstream data for compiling Excessive Deficit Procedure statistics in accordance with ESA rules, to be able to assess risks and initiate corrective action.

1.2 ONGOING WORK

• Production of annual government statistics: update of the dissemination database and website;
• Production of quarterly government statistics: validation and dissemination in the database and on the website;
• Verification of data under excessive deficit procedure;
• Missions of verification under Excessive Debt Procedure (EDP) and Stability and Growth Pact;
• Ex-ante and ex-post cases - methodological issues;
• Conceptual surveillance under the Excessive Deficit Procedure and the Stability and Growth Pact;
• Carry out statistical assessment of Candidate Countries;
• Support the development of the statistical system in Greece through the organisation and management of technical assistance activities in the areas of public finance statistics, high level advice and selected statistical domains;
• Support the development of the statistical system in Greece through the organisation and management of technical assistance activities in the areas of public finance statistics, high level advice and selected statistical domains;
• Training Course on government finance statistics.

2. Statistical work to be carried out by other DGs (including data collection from Member States) and/or EU Agencies

2.2 ONGOING WORK

• Classification of tax revenues by economic function and calculation of breakdown and implicit tax rates on consumption, labour, capital and environment.

2.5 Government finance, fiscal and public sector statistics (ILO)

Social protection expenditure and revenues

Ongoing activities:

• The ILO Social Security Inquiry will continue collection of statistics on social security expenditure and financing; its methodological approach is compatible as far as possible with the SNA, the Eurostat-ESSPROS approach to social protection revenue and expenditure statistics, the OECD Social Protection Expenditure database and the IMF's 2001 Government Finance Statistics guidelines (see 1.6 for more details).

2.5 Government finance, fiscal and public sector statistics (IMF)

Government Finance Statistics (GFS)

• Under the aegis of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Finance Statistics (TFFS) the IMF developed a Public Sector Debt Statistics Guide for Compilers and Users. It is expected to be disseminated in February 2011. In addition, the IMF and WB launched the Quarterly Public Sector Debt Statistics Database in December 2010*. This covers currently 30 countries and will be expanded.

• The IMF's Government Finance Statistics Yearbook (GFSY) contains annual fiscal data for 'general government' plus subsectors for about 100 countries. It continues to be available in hardcopy and CD-ROM format. Monthly, quarterly, and annual fiscal statistics are published in the International Financial Statistics (IFS). The IFS includes high-frequency fiscal data for about 90 countries. Particular attention is given to the availability and timeliness of fiscal data for G-20 economies.

• The IMF provides technical assistance in GFS to member countries through a variety of channels, including staff or expert missions to individual countries and long term advisors in the field. Each year, the IMF organizes GFS courses at headquarters and at regional centers and hands-on short workshops for high level officials (e.g. India, September 2010), and for mission chiefs and fiscal economists in the IMF.

• The IMF is phasing in the GFSM 2001 presentation for staff reports. The World Economic Outlook adopted the GFSM 2001 presentation in December 2009, and staff assist fiscal economists to adjust the fiscal sector files. Staff also participates in area department missions focusing on fiscal data reporting to the IMF.

• Work on updating the Government Finance Statistics Manual is ongoing. A Government Finance Statistics Advisory Committee has been established and will be discussing the main methodological areas for review, including the changes introduced in the 2008 System of National Accounts. The first meeting took place in February 2011. A GFSM discussion forum for selected methodological issues is now available online.

• With support from the U.K. DFID, staff developed a Compilation Guide for Developing Countries available at: http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pr/2011/pr11332.htm

• Cooperation with international organizations continues. The IMF, World Bank, OECD, ECB, and Eurostat are developing a coordinated strategy

for fiscal data presentation and collection. Cooperation with the International Public Sector Accounting Board (IPSASB) continues.

*The IMF/WB Quarterly Public Sector Database is available at: http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/DATASTATISTICS/EXTQPUBSECDEBT/0,,menuPK:7404478~pagePK:64168427~piPK:64168435~theSitePK:7404473,00.html

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2.5 Government finance, fiscal and public sector statistics (OECD)

Central Government Debt Statistics

Purpose

To provide an analytical tool primarily to government debt managers as well as to financial analysts including policy analysts, security analysts, commercial financial institutions, research analysts, etc. This work is carried out under the auspices of the Working Party on Government Debt Management.

The publication "Central Government Debt - Statistical Yearbook" provides annual statistics on central government debt instruments in the 34 OECD countries. The coverage of the data is limited to central government debt issuance; it excludes state and local government debt and social security funds. The main focus of the statistics is marketable debt instruments as well as duration and average term to maturity of domestic, foreign and total debt.

In addition, the publication provides individual country notes including methodological information such as a description of debt instruments and selling techniques in each country.

Objectives and outputs

In the 2011 edition of the statistical yearbook, 3 new OECD Member countries will be added: Estonia, Israel and Slovenia.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

World.

Databases

Central Government Debt Statistics

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

This data collection is suspended in 2012.

It is replaced by a new data collection launched in January 2012 named "Quarterly Public Sector Debt". Please see the details of this new activity in the 2012 Program of Work.

Data collection:

No data collection is planned in 2012.

Consumption Tax Trends

Purpose

To compile data from OECD member countries on their consumption tax rates, scopes and thresholds and provide comparative tables and analysis of trends. This includes data on VAT/GST, selected excise duties and car taxation. To compile statistics on VAT/GST revenues from internal OECD sources in order to provide an analysis of trends and calculate the VAT Revenue Ratio. To provide information about a number of consumption tax topics.

Objectives and outputs

Objectives: obtain consensus from WP9 delegates on the table of contents (approved in November 2011); Obtain data from member countries (February 2012); Analyse data (February-April 2012); Drafting & special features (April-July 2012); Edition process (July-September 2012); Publication: September 2012.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

India

Databases

Consumption Tax Trends

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Compared to 2010 Edition, a special chapter will be devoted to application of VAT in federal countries (including Australia, Canada, Brazil and India). New tables will be added on input tax blockings and low consignment reliefs. Methodological amendements will be brought to the calculation of the VAT Revenue Ratio.

Data collection:

None.

Fiscal Relations Across Levels of Government

Purpose

To collect data to support the activities of the Network on Fiscal Relations across Levels of Government. This includes data on sub national governments' discretion over own revenues and expenditures, on the design of local taxes, on intergovernmental transfers, on fiscal equalisation, on indicators of decentralisation, and on macroeconomic management of sub-central finance (fiscal rules).

Objectives and outputs

Collection and user-friendly presentation of revenue and spending shares (sub-central government as a share of general government and GDP).

Databases

Fiscal decentralisation

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

More data will be available on OECD.stat. More data will be presented in a user-friendly way on the Fiscal Network's own website.

Monitoring of Private Pension Systems: Global Pension Statistics

Purpose

Launched in 2002 this exercise provides a unique source of comparable statistics and indicators of funded pension plan systems from an international perspective and also facilitates cross-country comparisons of the most up-to-date statistics and indicators on key aspects of funded retirement systems across OECD and non-OECD countries. It aims to provide information about the main trends and features of funded pension plan systems in a clear and concise format.

Objectives and outputs

It aims to provide in a compact manner a comparative overview of the importance and structure of private and funded pension systems across OECD and non-OECD countries using a selected set of statistics and indicators, compiled on an on-going basis together with its companion product dedicated to the description and assessment of countries' statistical methodology following the OECD Classification on pension plans and pension funds.

As far as paper publications are concerned, the newsletter "Pension Markets in Focus" was released in July 2011 and private pension indicators have been included in the flagship publication 'OECD Pensions at a Glance 2011'. Contributions to other OECD publications (e.g. 'OECD in figures', 'OECD Factbook') will continue in 2012 as well as approximately sixty country profiles generated for the IOPS Web site on a yearly basis. In addition, one OECD flagship publication will be published in 2012 including private pension statistics: the 'OECD Pensions Outlook 2012'.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Peru, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Thailand, Ukraine.

Databases

OECD Global Pension Statistics
Pension indicators

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

With respect to quality improvements, the work in 2012 will focus on methodological issues such as valuation methods for assets and liabilities, and review of definitions within the statistical questionnaire.

The geographical scope should be extented to non-member countries, and in particular OECD Accession and Enhanced Engagement countries as well as remaining G20 countries not in the GPS framework yet.

Data collection:

Following discussions within the subgroup of the Task Force on Pension Statistics dealing with quality issues, and after the approval of the Task Force, adjustements will be done to the OECD statistical questionnaire, notably for the definition of variables related to investment income, derivatives and asset allocation.

Data management:

Additional variables should be collected related to asset allocation and derivatives.

OECD Statistical Yearbook on Central Government Debt and Public Debt Policies

Purpose

OECD Statistical Yearbook on Central Government Debt and Public Debt Policies:

The OECD also undertakes the annual collection of data for central government debt according to the specific requirements of the Statistical Yearbook on Central Government Debt which provide detailed breakdowns on public debt management policies and information on related primary and secondary government securities markets. The collection and provision of these additional data can serve as satellite accounts and complementary information. The OECD Statistical Yearbook on Central Government Debt (and Public Debt Policies) is currently being revised partly in response to the G20 Action Plan on Local Currency Bond Markets. To that end, Hans Blommestein, Head of OECD's Public Debt Management and Bond Market Unit, presented papers at the Third International Workshop on Developing Local Bond Markets (hosted by the Bundesbank in Frankfurt on 17-18 November 2011 and organized by the IMF and WBG as part of the implementation of the G20 Action Plan).

Objectives and outputs

Statistics and policy description are published in "Central Government Debt - Statistical and Policy Yearbook" for OECD countries. This publication was issued for the first time in 2000, analysing in detail and country-by-country central government debt in OECD countries. The main focus of the statistics is marketable debt instruments. In addition, the publication provides individual country notes including methodological information as well as a description of debt instruments and selling techniques in each country. The objective is to provide an analytical tool primarily to government debt managers as well as to financial analysts including policy analysts, security analysts, commercial financial institutions, research analysts, etc.

The main objective of provide information on policies is to make available comparable cross-country data on public debt managment strategies, operations and techniques.

Databases

Central Government Debt Statistics

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Preparation of the Central Government: Statistical and Policy Yearbook based on a revised version model of previous annual publications.

Up-date and expand version of the Central Government Debt: Statistical and Policy Yearbook is envisaged. Part of this work constitutes a response to the G20 request on addressing data gaps.

Develop and improve documentation on the sources and methodology of national data as well as debt policies, procedures and techniques.

Data collection:

Prepare the Central Government: Statistical and Policy Yearbook based on a revised version model of previous annual publications.

Revenue Statistics

Purpose

To provide data on tax revenues in OECD countries. These data are widely used within and outside the OECD to analyse tax policy developments in OECD countries.

Objectives and outputs

The annual "Revenue Statistics" publication provides a conceptual framework to define which government receipts should be regarded as taxes and to classify different types of taxes. It presents a set of detailed, internationally comparable tax data in a common format for all OECD countries from 1965 onwards.

Special features dealing with specific areas of interest (e.g. the interpretation of tax-to-GDP ratios; the impact of revised GDP figures on reported tax levels; changes to the rules for attributing revenues by level of government) represent an important component of the annual report.

Databases

Revenue Statistics

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Publish data earlier - by September.

Revenue Statistics in Latin America

Purpose

To provide data on tax revenues for a selection of Latin American countries under an OECD classification system thereby enabling comparisions between LAtin American and OECD countries.

Objectives and outputs

The Revenue Statistics in Latin America" publication provides a conceptual framework to define which government receipts should be regarded as taxes and to classify different types of taxes in 12 selected Latin American and Caribbean countries. It presents a set of detailed, internationally comparable tax data from 1990 onwards in a common format using the same methodology as the OECD Revenue Statistics database. The publication presents detailed cross-country comparisions between individual Latin American economies and also for the first time between them and OECD countries.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina.

Databases

Revenue Statistics in Latin America

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Add an additional 3 countries to the 12 countries covered in the first edition of the publication.

Data collection:

Including 3 additional countries to make a total of 15.

Data management:

Coverage extended to 15 countries from 12 previously.

Tax Rates

Purpose

To provide information on tax rates in OECD countries. The taxes covered are personal and corporate income taxes, social security contributions

and value added tax. The data are used to analyse tax rate trends and their policy implications.

Objectives and outputs

Data tables showing, for each of the main taxes, the rate and its method of application in each country are disseminated on the OECD website.

Databases

OECD Tax Database.

Taxing Wages

Purpose

To provide annual data for OECD countries on the personal income taxes and social security contributions paid by employees and their employers.

Objectives and outputs

The annual "Taxing Wages" publication details the tax/benefit position of employees, covering personal income tax and social security contributions paid by employees and their employers, and universal cash benefits received by family units. Taxes and benefits are detailed for eight family-types, which differ by income level and household composition. The report also presents the resulting average and marginal tax rates.

Databases

Taxing Wages

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Earlier publication in 2012 compared with May in 2011.

Government at a Glance Indicators

Purpose

To collect comparable data and indicators of good government and efficient public services, and to provide robust empirics with which to assess the impact of public management reforms and progress made in their implementation.

Objectives and outputs

The objective is to presents internationally comparable set of data in order to help decision makers and the public analyse and benchmark government performance. The database includes measures of both the market and non-market activities of government and for selected indicators of government-owned enterprises. Data are based on general government/public sector labor statistics; on detailed information from general government national accounts (investments, public corporations, supply and use tables) and informations collected by GOV surveys on governance as well data collected on government outputs and outcomes by CTP, EDU, ELSA. Government at a Glance indicators are regularly (every second year) published in "OECD Government at a Glance". The last edition (2011) included indicators on public finance and economics, public sector employment; HRM; compensation for key public sector occupations ; regulatory governace; tranparency in governance; service delivery and also output and outcome measures for selected policy sectors and functions.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa, Ukraine.

Databases

Government at a Glance Indicators

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

In 2012 the main priorities are to consolidate the existing database with the introduction of periodical updates of such database for selected indicators. Moreover, priority is to implement the development of new indicators for Government at a Glance 2013 focusing on service delivery, rule of law and better indicators for the the implementation and results of various public management and governance practices.

Data management:

Planning to introduce periodical updates of the dataset for selected indicators.

Benefits and Wages

Purpose

Monitor reforms of tax and benefits systems and their impact on work incentives and income adequacy. Results are used as the basis of the OECD's "Benefits and Wages" publication and as inputs into a wide range of studies produced within and outside the OECD. In addition, the group develops and maintains tax-benefit models. These computer models allow a wide range of tax and benefit indicators to be produced. Finally, the online "tax-benefit calculator" and tax-benefit models for 32 OECD and an additional 6 EU countries are available on the web-page www.oecd.org/els/social/workincentives and are updated annually.

Objectives and outputs

The Benefits and Wages series addresses the complicated interactions of tax and benefit systems for different family types and labour market situations. The series is a valuable tool used to compare the different benefits made available to those without work and those with different levels of in-work income. The resulting indicators (such as 'net replacement rates') are useful for addressing issues of both work incentives and adequacy of household incomes.

Recent updates include calculations of incomes and work incentives net of childcare costs. Country coverage was recently extended to include Estonia, Israel and Slovenia, and, as part of a grant agreement with the European Commission, the new EU Members States who are not currently members of the OECD: Bulgaria, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta and Romania. Preliminary models have been developed for Russia. Finally, ad-hoc (2009) models were developed jointly with the World Bank for a number of south-eastern European countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Serbia.

An interface for interactive web access to tax-benefit models has been developed ("tax-benefit calculator") and is available on the web-page www.oecd.org/els/social/workincentives. Also available on this web page are country files and model output for 38 countries.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia.

Databases

Benefits and Wages

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

On-line publication of 2010 tax-benefit models, country files and an expanded range of work incentive and income adequacy indicators for 38 countries. Ad hoc update of policy summary tables. Development of 2011 models for 39 countries (adding Chile). Commence up-date of synthetic earnings distribution data, by gender, to latest post-crisis year available.

Data collection:

Include Chile.

2.6 International trade and balance of payments and international investment position (ECB)

• Continue compiling euro area b.o.p. and i.i.p. statistics, and the Eurosystem's international reserves, including external debt and seasonally adjusted main components of the current account.

• Provide contribution to the compilation of the rest-of-the-world sector in the quarterly euro area sector accounts.

• In cooperation with Eurostat and the Working Group on External Statistics, revise ECB requirements in line with the new international standards in the field of external statistics (namely the 6th edition of the Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM6) and the OECD Benchmark definition of Foreign Direct Investment).

• Continue monitoring the quality of the output in b.o.p. and i.i.p. statistics, both in terms of qualitative assessment and quantitative indicators. Annual data quality reports on the euro area b.o.p. / i.i.p. are published on the ECB's web site.

• Continue compiling data on the international role of the euro as an investment, invoicing and reserve currency.

• Further improve the consistency, accuracy and analytical value of statistics on securities and portfolio investment through the enhancement of security-by-security data collection models, also based on a Centralised Securities Database (CSDB).

• Further harmonise and improve the statistics on Foreign Direct Investment (joint ECB/Eurostat project on FDI production network).

2.6 International trade and balance of payments (CIS-STAT)

Foreign Trade Statistics

Ongoing work:

In foreign trade in goods over the period 2012:

Collection, processing, analysis and publication of data:

• On volumes of exports and imports, foreign trade balance as a whole with a breakdown by CIS countries and rest of the world countries (in current prices);

• On volumes of exports and imports, foreign trade balance by regional amalgamations of the CIS countries (in current prices);

• On exports and imports of most important commodities in quantity as a whole with a breakdown by CIS countries and rest of the world countries.

• Ratio of exports to imports;

• Share of the CIS countries and rest of the world countries in total volume of exports and imports transactions;

• Share of selected countries of the Commonwealth in total volume of intra trade;

• Share of selected countries of the Commonwealth in total volume of exports and imports transactions with the rest of the world countries;

• Exports of selected commodities of the Commonwealth countries by partner countries;

• Imports of selected commodities of the Commonwealth countries by partner countries;

• Average export prices for main commodities in the Commonwealth countries;

• Average import prices for main commodities in the Commonwealth countries.

• Commodity structure of exports (imports):
- total;
- in trade with CIS countries;
- in trade with the countries of the Eurasian Economic Community;
- in trade with the rest of the world countries;

• Production, exports, imports and "visible" consumption of selected kinds of products of the CIS countries;

• Preparation of analytical reports illustrating foreign trade of the Commonwealth countries with the CIS countries, rest of the world countries and countries of the Eurasian Economic Community.

• Preparation of abstracts illustrating foreign trade of the Commonwealth countries:
- "Foreign Trade of the CIS Countries in 2011" (statistical abstract of preliminary results) in Russian;
- "Foreign Trade of the CIS Countries in 2011" (Russian-English version);
- "Foreign Trade of the CIS and EU Countries" (booklet, Russian-English version).

• CIS-STAT will continue making forecasts of production, imports and exports and "visible consumption" of most important kinds of products by countries of the Commonwealth. Over the period 2011-2012, the nomenclature of products covered in the forecasts will be broadened in comparison with the previous years.

• Provision of advisory and methodological assistance in statistics of foreign trade to national statistical services.

Trade in Services

Ongoing work:

On international trade in services over the period 2012(on a yearly basis):

• Collection of information from national statistical services on exports and imports of services in value terms by partner countries and kinds of services;

• Publication of data on trade in services of the CIS countries by main kinds of services and trade partners;

• Provision of advisory and methodological assistance to the national statistical services of the CIS countries in the statistical study of international trade in services;

• Preparation of analytical reports on exports (imports) of services in selected Commonwealth countries.

New activities:

Over the period 2012:

• Improvement of methodological recommendations on statistics of international trade in services.

2.6 International trade and balance of payments (Eurostat)

Theme 2.07 - Trade in goods

Fields of activities covered by the theme

• Production and dissemination of external trade statistics;
• Quality assurance in trade statistics;
• Coordination, drafting, adjustment and maintenance of legislation in the field of statistics on trade in goods with Member States (Intrastat) and non-Member States (Extrastat);
• Coordination of initiatives on burden reduction in the field of external trade statistics recap.

1. Work to be carried out by Eurostat in 2012

1.1 NEW WORK, INCLUDING NEW PLANNED LEGISLATION

• Harmonisation of validation rules to be applied by Member States before sending data to Eurostat;
• Development of statistics merging trade and business related data.

1.2 ONGOING WORK

• Development of a proposal for the integration of international transactions and business statistics in a single legal act.
• Recap various options for simplifying the Intrastat system (e.g. single flow, nomenclature) and develop a mid-term proposal for further simplification.
• Methodology in International Trade in Goods Statistics: coordinate all activities related to the methodological development for Intrastat and Extrastat.
• Manage the trade in goods - cooperation, assist for country reports, seminars, improved methodology.
• Production of trade in goods statistical data: make detailed trade data and metadata from Member States, international organisations and third countries available in the Comext database on a monthly basis.
• COMEXT User support: provide technical and statistical user support to the European Commission, Member States and other public users and institutions. Organise monthly Comext training courses for the Commission.
• Further modernisation of tools for Intrastat data collection and facilitation of Multinational Enterprises declarations.
• Improve and automate the structured communication with Member States with the use of XT-NET ASSIST system.
• Trade in goods: Electronic data dissemination. Data and metadata accessible on-line and by DVD/free dissemination. Enhancements of the derivation procedures (by Classification of Products by Activity (CPA), Standard International Trade Classification (SITC), Broad Economic Categories (BEC), external trade by means of transport (NSTR), combinations of them) and improvement data linking of trade statistics with tariffs database.
• MEETS trade in goods - coordination of objective 4: coordinate the MEETS projects related to international trade statistics.
• Develop and promote standards, IT architecture design and provide support for the data collection and date exchange among providers of statistical information and collecting authorities as well as for the exchange of information between administrations.
• Coordination and promotion of actions aiming the improvement of collection systems, procedures and validation at Member States level. Maintenance and further development of messages (Instat-XML), transfer formats (SDMX), use cases, architecture of data exchange systems.
• Publication of aggregated data for international transactions.
• International Trade in Goods Statistics: analysis and quality, incl. compliance.

Theme 2.08 - Trade in services and balance of payments

Fields of activities covered by the theme

• Balance of payments (BoP): Methodology, Meetings;
• Quarterly balance of payments;
• Foreign direct investment (FDI);
• International trade in services;

• Balance of payments of the EU institutions;
• Balance of payments and related statistics: Enlargement.

1. Work to be carried out by Eurostat in 2012

1.1 NEW WORK, INCLUDING NEW PLANNED LEGISLATION

• Economic imbalance scoreboard - external imbalances: contribute to the development of the indicators and prepare their regular production.

1.2 ONGOING WORK

• Balance of Payments Quality Report (QR) is compiled annually according to Regulation (EC) No. 184/2005 (Art 11) and Regulation (EC) No. 1055/2008. Bilateral tables of asymmetries will be integrated in Balance of Payments Quality Report (BoP QR) from 2011 onwards. BoP QR includes parts related to International Trade in Services (ITS) and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).
• Implementation of Balance of Payments Manual (BPM6): Regulation (EC) No 184/2005 has to be amended in line with the new international standards. An harmonised codification has to be defined and methodological guidelines have to be provided to the Member States. This is a joint initiative from Eurostat and DG Statistics of the ECB, with the ECB taking the lead with regard to the new codification structure.
• Balance of Payments and related Euro Indicators: treatment and dissemination of quarterly Balance of Payments (BoP) data.
• Foreign Direct Investment: data production, compilation and dissemination of statistics. Maintenance and development of methodology as well as data quality issues. Maintenance and development of the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Network.
• Methodology, production, dissemination and quality management for International Trade in Services Statistics.
• Balance of Payments of EU Institutions: production and dissemination of the monthly, quarterly and annual online tables.
• Manage the Modernisation of European Enterprise and Trade Statistics (MEETS) projects related to international transactions.

2.6 International trade and balance of payments (IMF)

International Trade

• The IMF participates in the development and promulgation of standards and methodology for trade statistics compilation such as the UN's International Merchandise Trade Statistics. The IMF has actively participated to the Intersecretariat Task Force on Merchandise Trade Statistics, chaired by the World Trade Organization (WTO). The Task Force's initiatives include developing international handbooks on concepts and compilation methods for merchandise trade statistics and to reconcile merchandise trade data collected by the IMF, the United Nations, and the WTO.

• The IMF collects and maintains the monthly Direction of Trade Statistics database and disseminates associated monthly electronic and quarterly/annual hardcopy publications Direction of Trade Statistics, both quarterly and annual. Online version of the DOTS was released in January 2007 (available at http://www.imf.org) The Direction of Trade Statistics Yearbook (DOTSY) database provides annual bilateral trade data on the value of imports and exports of goods for 182 countries and major regional groups. Exports and imports are based upon both country data and estimation procedures designed to reduce gaps in reported values. The DOTS quarterly database is widely used within the IMF for trade policy analysis. This quarterly publication presents data for 158 countries and major regional areas. It is supplemented by a monthly CD-ROM and online database.

Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Statistics

• The IMF's Statistics Department released the English version of the sixth edition of the Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM6) at the end 2009 as an update to BPM5. The release of the BPM6 represents the culmination of several years of work by the Statistics Department under the auspices of the IMF Committee on Balance of Payments Statistics (Committee) in collaboration with a range of interested parties such as data users, national statistical compilers, specialized expert groups, and other international organizations. The BPM6 retains the basic framework of the BPM5, and the revision was undertaken in parallel with the update of the 2008 SNA, thereby enhancing the harmonization of macroeconomic statistics. The BPM6 also takes into account the methodological guidelines presented in other statistical manuals, including External Debt Statistics: Guide for Compilers and Users (2003), the MFSM, and the GFSM 2001. BPM6 is available on the IMF website at www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/bop/2007/bopman6.htm. Work is underway to translate the BPM6 into five languages- Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, and Spanish.

• The IMF provides technical assistance and training in external sector statistics to support countries in implementing the BPM6.

The Balance of Payments Statistics Yearbook

• The IMF collects and disseminates balance of payments and international investment position (IIP) data of member countries through publication of its Balance of Payments Statistics Yearbook (BOPSY) and International Finance Statistics (IFS), accessible through www.imf.org/external/data.htm.

• The BOPSY database contains data on balance of payments statistics for 195 jurisdictions and on IIP statistics for 123 jurisdictions. These annual and quarterly data are published monthly via CD-ROM and the online database.

The Coordinated Portfolio Investment Survey

• The CPIS collects information on individual economy holdings of portfolio investment securities - equity and debt securities - valued at market prices at the end of each year, cross-classified by the country of the issuer of the securities. The coverage of the CPIS is augmented with information on the geographic breakdown of securities held as countries' foreign exchange reserve assets and security holdings of selected international organizations (these data are not disclosed at a detailed level, as the data are reported on a confidential basis). The CPIS is undertaken on an annual basis since 2001. The CPIS database is available on the IMF's website see: (www.imf.org/external/np/sta/pi/cpis.htm) along with the metadata. The results of the 2009 CPIS were posted on the IMF's external website at http://www.imf.org/external/np/sta/pi/geo.htm in November 2011 with 75 participating economies.

• Consistent with the advice of the Task Force on IIP/CPIS Data Enhancements and other data users, the IMF will promote further CPIS data enhancements, including enhancements in frequency, timeliness, and number of CPIS participating countries.

Coordinated Direct Investment Survey

• In consultation with other international organizations, the IMF undertook the second annual Coordinated Direct Investment Survey (CDIS). It had a reference date of end-2010. The results of the CDIS are available at http://cdis.imf.org. The CDIS results page also includes cross-country tables and links to participants' metadata.

• The CDIS provides direct investment positions data, by counterpart economy of immediate direct investor/direct investment enterprise. In addition, most participants have provided additional information by instrument. The survey is being conducted in a harmonized manner, so that the same principles are applied by participants with respect to valuation. Participation in the CDIS is broadly based. Many developing and emerging economies, as well as nearly all advanced economies, participated. The results, published as an online database, cover investment positions as at end-2009 for 84 participating economies, 12 more than the preliminary release in December 2010 (see Press Release 10/510). The new participants are Azerbaijan, Bhutan, China P.R.: Mainland, Ghana, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Mauritius, Moldova, Paraguay, Russian Federation, and Samoa. The IMF will post revised and more comprehensive 2010 data in mid-2012.

Data Template on International Reserves and Foreign Currency Liquidity

• The website www.imf.org/external/np/sta/ir/IRProcessWeb/colist.aspxre-disseminates IMF member countries' data on international reserves and foreign currency liquidity in a common template and in a common currency (the U.S. dollar) www.imf.org/external/np/sta/ir/index.htm. The total number of reporters redisseminating the data is increasing and has now reached 74 (72 reporting countries, plus the ECB and Eurosystem). Currently, the International Reserves and Foreign Currency Liquidity Guidelines for a Data Template are being updated in line with BPM6.

Trade in Services

• The IMF participates in the Inter-Agency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services (ITFSITS). The ITFSITS has revised the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services (MSITS) in accordance with revisions to the 2008 SNA and the sixth edition of the IMF's Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM6). The 2010 MSITS was approved by the United Nations Statistical Commission at its meeting in February 2010. The IMF promotes the development and improvement of data on international trade in services as an integral part of its activities relating to the implementation of the BPM6. These efforts include the organization of and participation in regional seminars on statistics of international trade in services, in collaboration with other ITFSITS members.

Remittances

• The IMF has recently improved methodological and compilation guidance for data on remittances, both through improvements in concepts (the BPM6 provides the conceptual framework for measuring remittances) and through developing guidance for the compilation of remittances data. The latter was carried out in collaboration with the World Bank and a select group of compilers from around the world (Luxembourg Group), and resulted in the preparation of the International Transactions in Remittances: Guide for Compilers and Users (RCG). The RCG was officially released in June 2009 at the second International Technical Meeting on Remittances. Work is underway to translate the guide into five languages-Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, and Spanish.

Currency Composition of Official Foreign Exchange Reserves

• The IMF has been collecting quarterly data on the currency composition of official foreign exchange reserves (COFER) since the 1960s from individual countries on a strict confidentiality basis, with dissemination limited to selected aggregates only. The database distinguishes official reserves denominated in U.S. dollars, euros, pounds sterling, Japanese yen, Swiss francs, and other currencies. In response to heightened policy and public interest, the IMF launched the quarterly publication of aggregate COFER data on its website on December 21, 2005 (www.imf.org/external/np/sta/cofer/eng/index.htm). Before this launch, annual aggregate COFER data had only been published in the IMF's Annual Reports. The published data are presented in aggregate form for each currency for three groupings: world, advanced economies, and emerging and developing economies. The classification of countries and the definition of foreign exchange reserves follow those currently used in the IMF's IFS.

External Debt Statistics

• Under the aegis of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Finance Statistics (TFFS), chaired by the IMF, the External Debt Statistics: Guide for Compilers and Users (EDS Guide) was published in 2003 to set the standards in this field of statistics. The TFFS agreed that work on the update

of the EDS Guide will be undertaken beginning in 2011 with the objective of having the next EDS Guide ready by 2013. On the whole, the EDS Guide remains largely consistent with the updated standards. A limited number of changes in the methodological treatments in the EDS Guide are discussed in the paper: Update of the External Debt Guide on Issues Emerging from BPM6 (March 2009). The TFFS website (www.tffs.org) is hosted by the IMF and was launched in December 2008.

• The IMF provides technical assistance in external debt to member countries through a variety of venues, including staff and expert missions to individual countries, and joint training activities with the members of the TFFS (comprising the Bank for International Settlements, Commonwealth Secretariat, European Central Bank, Eurostat, IMF, OECD, Paris Club Secretariat, UNCTAD, and the World Bank).

• In collaboration with the IMF, the World Bank launched in 2004 a Quarterly External Debt Database (www.worldbank.org/qeds) that offers access to external debt statistics of 63 countries that disseminate external debt data according to the requirements of the IMF's Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS), and to gross public external debt statistics of about 32 countries that provide data according to the recommendations of the IMF's General Data Dissemination System (GDDS). The IMF in collaboration with the BIS, OECD, and the World Bank launched the Joint External Debt Hub (JEDH) website in March 2006, bringing together external debt statistics produced from creditor/market sources for over 200 economies together with debtor sources taken from the Quarterly External Database. The JEDH website can be found at www.jedh.org.

2.6 International trade and balance of payments (ITF on International Trade in Services)

Trade in Services

• The revised Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services (MSITS), which was adopted by the United Nations Statistical Committee in February 2010 was released in its electronic format early 2011. It is published by seven agencies. Work on compilation guidance to the MSITS, will be the first priority of the TFSITS in 2012, for that purpose an expert group on the compilation of SITS (EG-CSITS) will be created to assist in this process and countries be invited to make experts available.

• The Task Force (TFSITS), convened by OECD, coordinates technical cooperation efforts between agencies to aid countries' implementation of the MSITS's recommendations. The Task Force has developed a free training module on trade in services coordinated by the World Trade Organization and with the World Bank.

• Data collection is coordinated by the agencies to avoid duplication of effort e.g. through standard questionnaires and codes for reporting the data, and data sharing.

• A UNSD web page, with a Newsletter, provides a central reference point for information about MSITS, the work of the TFSITS, seminars and other new developments. (http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/default.asp). This provides links to the other Organisations web pages on trade in services. OECD and UNSD have established email hotlines (respectively std.servstat@oecd.org (mailto: std.servstat@oecd.org) and tradeserv@un.org (mailto: tradeserv@un.org)) for inquiries about the work on trade in services.

• The next biannual meeting of the Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services will take place on the 27th March 2012 in New York, followed by a 3 days meeting of the expert group on the compilation of SITS. The second meeting for 2012 is scheduled for the 25th of October, following the OECD Working Party on Trade in Goods and Services (WPTGS) which is scheduled for the 22nd to the 24th of October in Paris.

2.6 International trade and balance of payments (OECD)

Creditor Reporting System (CRS) Aid Activity Database

Purpose

Provide Members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and the international aid community a set of readily available basic data that enables analysis on where aid goes, what purposes it serves and what policies it aims to implement. The DAC uses the data for consideration of specific policy issues and for monitoring donors' compliance with various international recommendations in the field of development co-operation. Outside the DAC, the data is mainly used to analyse the sectoral and geographical breakdown of aid for selected years and donors or groups of donors.

Objectives and outputs

Improve consistency, presentation and coverage to reflect current development co-operation priorities and classifications. Continue work on converging DAC and CRS datasets. Improve reporting and timeliness at an activity level.

Since 2008 (reporting on 2007 flows) the CRS includes the Trade capacity Building Database (TCBDB) operated previously by WTO.

Databases

Creditor Reporting System (CRS) Aid Activity Database

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

No major changes.

Data collection:

No major changes.

Database on Country Programmable Aid (CPA database)

Purpose

Provide members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and the international aid community a set of readily of available statistics on country programmable aid (CPA) flows. This new measure of aid comes much closer to capturing the flows received and recorded in country aid management systems than measures of total aid (ODA - official development assistance). CPA is estimated on the basis of the standard DAC statistics (DAC and CRS) and defined through exclusion, by subtracting from total gross ODA aid that is: unpredictable by nature (humanitarian aid and debt relief); entails no cross-border flows (administrative costs, imputed student costs, promotion of development awareness, and research and refugees in donor countries); does not form part of co-operation agreements between governments (food aid and aid from local governments); or is not country programmable by the donor (core funding of NGOs). The database provides reference data to DAC and other stakeholders for the analysis of fragmentation and planned forward spending of aid.

Objectives and outputs

To provide timely and comprehensive statistics on country programmable aid (CPA) for all countries and territories on the DAC List of ODA Recipients. To provide reference data for the annual Report of the Survey of Indicative Forward Spending Plans and for the annual Report on Division of Labour and global fragmentation.

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Further strengthening the methodology to derive CPA.

Official and Private Resource Flows from DAC Members to Developing Countries

Purpose

The Development Assistance Committee (DAC) database provides comprehensive data on the volume, origin and types of aid and other resource flows to over 150 aid recipients. The data shows each aid recipient's receipts of official development assistance (ODA), other official flows and private flows from members of the DAC, multilateral agencies and other non-DAC donors.

Objectives and outputs

To provide timely and comprehensive statistics of official and private flows to all countries and territories on the DAC list of ODA recipients. Improve consistency, presentation and coverage to reflect current development co-operation priorities and classifications.

Update reporting guidance to maintain comparable statistics and improve reporting and comparability of statistics on the tying status of aid.

Support work on changing patterns of development finance and the increasing role of private flows.

Databases

Database on official and private resource flows from DAC Members to developing countries.

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Continue with converging DAC data collections (CRS and DAC); propose converged directives for approval; further work on improving access to data, possible sharing of data with developing countries, and continuing help from Secretariat to members in improving statistical quality and timeliness.

Continue work on non-ODA flows which examines types of development financing other than ODA (non-concessional official loans inc. export credits, private flows inc. remittances, guarantee schemes). This analysis will focus on both the volume and developmental relevance of these

flows.

DAC interest: DAC members afforded a high priority to this work during discussions of the PWB for 2011-2012, consequently (and based on the progress of work).

Data collection:

Improve types of aid reporting and convergence of DAC data collections (CRS+DAC).

Balance of Payments

Purpose

To collect and publish timely, accurate and internationally comparable Balance of Payments statistics to meet OECD user needs and in support of identified data needs.

Objectives and outputs

To provide timely summary quarterly statistics on Balance of Payments. To improve the efficiency of data collection, timeliness, international comparability and quality of the published balance of payments data on the MEI database. To contribute as appropriate to the OECD Quarterly Trade Press Release. To contribute to methodological work on Balance of Payments. To improve information on remittance flows to meet user needs. Integrate Enhanced Engagement countries.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa.

Databases

Balance of Payments
MEI_BOP

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

The SDMX coding for BOP in BPM6 including the extended Balance of Payments in Services classification will be elaborated in coordination with OECD/DAF and other International Organisations.

Data collection:

Improve the efficiency and timeliness of data collection. Find new data for non member countries.

International Coordination of trade in Services Statistics

Purpose

Given the wide variety of activities carried out by national and international organisations related to trade in service statistics, to improve coordination of international development work on trade in services statistics and facilitate a strategic view of priority needs. To provide an overview of these activities and facilitate communication between international expert groups involved. To identify overlaps, links and gaps in international work on methodological issues and data collection.

Objectives and outputs

In cooperation with UNSD, provide a report to the UN Statistics Commission (UNSC) on coordination of trade in services statistics, with proposals on strategy, as requested by UNSC.

Facilitate coordination on service statistics by providing central information point on services statistics developments, gathering information from active groups, and create and maintain web pages on international developments in services statistics.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Continue to chair and coordinate the work of the Task Force on Statistics on International Trade in Services (TFSITS).Cooperate on the work related to the Trade in services compiler's guide.

International Trade in Goods

Purpose

To produce consistent and timely international trade data for OECD member countries and ensure methodological soundness and comparability of international trade data. To conduct research to improve the quality of the concepts underlying international trade data and play an active role in the development of international standards.

Objectives and outputs

Collects and maintains two databases for analytical use: (a) monthly data of exports and imports at current prices by partner countries and main categories of commodities, and volume and average value indices for selected countries and main categories; and (b) detailed annual data of exports and imports by commodities and by partner countries using three classifications (SITC, HS, ISIC).

Full implementation of the OECD-UNSD data sharing agreement covering all OECD member countries. A successful completion of the first phase (data collection and transmission to UNSD) of this initiative has already resulted in a reduction of the response burden for member countries and has led in 2006 to identical trade figures published by both the UN and the OECD (processed data). The OECD meeting of experts in international trade will continue to stimulate the exchange of views and research on methodological issues.

OECD continues to participate in and contribute to the Inter-Agency Merchandise Trade Task Force and manages, and moderates together with WTO, the EDG "Tradenet" on methodological and co-ordination issues affecting various national and international organisations.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, Chinese Taipei, Russian Federation, Slovenia.

Databases

International trade by Commodity Statistics
Monthly Statistics of International Trade

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

In 2012, data quality and timeliness of processed data should be further improved as it is planned to implement "data capture" checks in order to facilitate the upload of data into ITCS.

ITCS in OECD.Stat has continued stabilizing in 2011. For users efficiency results have been gained thanks to the better awareness of the possibility of a direct link to the trade data in the format of SQL tables. Also the architecture of ITCS with a direct link to OECD.stat has proven to function well with better performances and better timeliness.

In the context of the 2011-2012 bienium project of implementation of Unit value Indexes to the annual trade database, research will be continued on an outlier detection method that can fit with the data provided with the different members of the OECD

Data collection:

Concurrent use of the ITCS OECD-UNSD common data collection and processing system and the OECD trade ITCS in OECD.Stat. Full addition of ISIC classification.

International Trade in Services

Purpose

To provide detailed, relevant and internationally comparable data for trade policy and economic analysis. The information needs of international trade negotiations including the General Agreement on Trade in Services and the observed increase in internationalisation of services production are driving new developments.

Objectives and outputs

An annual joint effort publication with Eurostat and database: "OECD Statistics on International Trade in Services - Detailed tables by category of service". This covers the 34 member countries. Data are based on the concepts of the IMF's 5th Balance of Payments Manual (except for Australia that already moved to BPM6) and are broken down according to the detailed EBOPS Classification of Trade in Services with the

exception of Australia which has started compiling information according to BPM6. The publication "OECD Statistics on International Trade in Services - Detailed Tables by Partner Country" provides bilateral service trade flows for 33 member countries, Hong Kong SAR and Russian Federation.

Coordinate the work of the Interagency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services. Contribute to the Trade in services compilation Guide. Contribute to organisation of the WP on trade in goods and trade in services statistics.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa.

Databases

International trade in services by category of service (TIS)
OECD Statistics on International Trade in Services by Service Category and by Partner Country

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

The SDMX coding for BOP in BPM6 including the extended Balance of Payments in Services classification will be elaborated in coordination with OECD/DAF and other International Organisations.

Facilitate to the extent possible links between the classifications EBOPS and ISIC.

Continue Implementing EBOPS 2010 in Statworks and upload countries that have adopted the new standards.

Improve the timeliness, with rolling updates, and detail of published data. Monitor progress in the implementation of MSITS recommendations.

Contribute to OECD analytical work and in particular work closely with TAD and STI on data needs for the Services Trade Restrictiveness Index. Improve estimates of world trade flows of services.

Cooperate with Eurostat to collect and make available as far as possible partner country data on remittances.

Develop cooperation with UNSD and other agencies on data sharing in trade in services.

Initiate merge of the Trade in Services by category and by partner country in order to save resources to be allocated to the development of databases and metadata related to the new standards.

Cooperate with WTO to elaborate the annual World Matrix of bilateral services flows.

Data collection:

Pursue rolling update of trade in services by partner country data as data become available. Countries that are sent an excel questionnaire will be asked to fill it in. A second best would now be for them to provide us with their data in an SDMX format.

Joint OECD/UNSD Annual Trade System

Purpose

Maintain International Trade Database to manage Annual and Monthly statistics in collaboration with the United Nations Statistics Division.

Objectives and outputs

Technical maintenance and small enhancements to the system.

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Technical maintenance and small enhancements.

Monthly International Trade

Purpose

To produce consistent and timely international trade data for OECD member countries, ensure methodological soundness and comparability of international trade data, conduct research to improve the quality of the concepts underlying international trade data and play an active role in the

development of international standards.

Objectives and outputs

Collect data and maintain database for analytical use: monthly data of exports and imports at current prices by partner countries and main categories of commodities, and volume and average value indices for selected countries and main categories. Continuous and close co-operation with key users at OECD. Updating cycles optimised to respond to needs of Economic Outlook. Online availability of OECD's detailed international trade data. OECD continues to actively participate and contribute to the International Trade Task Force (Inter-Agency TF).

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Slovenia

Databases

Monthly Statistics of International Trade (MSIT)

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

No major changes.

Services Trade Restrictiveness Index

Purpose

The STRI database will be a unique resource providing internationally comparable current information on regulatory policies affecting trade in services.

Objectives and outputs

The main achievements for 2011 are:

• Complete refinement of the entire regulatory database;
• Verification of 95% of the OECD member countries and complete verification of 50% of them;
• Extension to 6 new sectors;
• Countries and experts are now convinced of the utility of such a tool.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

India, Slovenia.

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

The regulatory database for the pilot sectors should be finalised during the first half of 2012. A first version of the interface developed by the OECD for dissemination of qualitative information should The coverage of the new sectors has already started for 30% of the countries.

STAN Bilateral Trade Database by Industry and End-use (BTDIxE)

Purpose

The STAN Bilateral Trade Database by industry and end-use (BTDIxE) is a new tool for analysing global production networks. This database presents international trade in goods broken down both by industrial sectors and by end-use categories for the period 1995-2010, allowing, for example, insights into the patterns of trade in intermediate goods between countries to track global production networks and supply chains, and helping to address policy issues such as trade in value added and trade in tasks. In particular, it is designed for linking OECD Input-Output tables to allow development and user of inter-country I-O models.

BTDIxE is an extension of the "traditional" BTD - maintained since the mid-1990s and covering total trade by industry only. The BTDIxE industry list provides sufficient detail to enable users to highlight high-technology sectors and is compatible with those used in related OECD databases. The end-use category list includes the three broad SNA categories: capital goods, intermediate goods and household consumption.

Objectives and outputs

A first version of BTDIxE was released at the end of 2011 together with documentation in the form of STI Working Paper (DSTI/DOC(2011)6.

Figures provided for all OECD countries and 30 non-OECD countries. Data to 2010 for 56 out of 64 countries.

To build the data set, 8 conversion keys were developed - from each version of HS (1988, 1996, 2002 and 2007) to both ISIC Rev.3 and End-uses (via BEC).

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Chinese Taipei, Croatia, Cyprus, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Moldova, Other, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Thailand.

Databases

STAN Bilateral Trade Database by Industry and End-use (BTDIxE)

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

• Complete update to 2010 for all countries;
• Include trade flows adjusted for Hong Kong re-exports;
• Undertake further country specific adjustments as required;
• Add countries / country groups according to demand;
• Embark on development of new trade indicators based on BTDIxE;
• Draft paper based on analytical use of BTDIxE;
• Develop and implement a concordance key for converting HS product data to ISIC Rev. 4.

Trade by enterprise characteristics

Purpose

To measure, on the one hand, the contribution of real economic sectors to international trade, and on the other hand, to complement business data with detailed information on trade, which is traditionally not part of business statistics.

Objectives and outputs

Under guidance of the Business Economic Statistics and Trade (BEST) Steering Group, a first OECD Linkage Table, which is based on Eurostat's Standardisation Document Rev. 2, was sent out to participating Non-EU-OECD member countries. Up to now, OECD has received data collection tables from Canada, Israel, Norway and the United States. In addition, Eurostat provided OECD with the respective (published) data tables of several EU member states for reference years 2005-7. After reclassification of the Eurostat data to OECD standards (ISIC and CPC classifications, USD currency and OECD geo-nomenclature), these were integrated to the Trade by enterprise characteristics (TEC) database of the OECD, available in the globalisation cube of OECD.Stat.

Databases

Trade by Enterprise Characteristics

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

In 2012, the data collection will include more recent reference years and more countries, by inviting a wider group of OECD member countries. A close cooperation with Eurostat will be maintained.

The Handbook on Trade Microdata is expected to be completed in 2012 and submited to the BEST Steering Group.

2.6 International trade and balance of payments (UN Statistics Division)

International Merchandise Trade

Priority objectives:

• Finalizing the International Merchandise Trade Statistics: Compilers Manual, Revision 1;
• Major upgrade of the UN Comtrade database, including the integration of monthly data;
• Gradually developing new methodology for the future of trade statistics, by linking trade and business statistics, integrating trade in goods and services and improving institutional arrangements at national level, as expressed in the "Vision 2020" document.

Ongoing work:

• Capacity development activities for the improvement of compilation practices and implementation of the new international recommendations (IMTS 2010);
• Continuation of work on UN COMTRADE to provide high quality data and efficient public, governmental and international agency access;
• Production of analytical outputs, such as the Trade Statistics Yearbook;
• Coordination of international statistical work in the field of trade statistics (in co-operation with EUROSTAT, OECD, UNCTAD, FAO, WTO, WCO, the UN Regional Commissions and other international and regional organizations).

International Trade in Services

Priority objectives:

• Development of the Compilers Guide for the revised Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services 2010;
• Establishment of UN Expert Group on compilation of SITS (EG-CSITS);
• Further development of the UN database on international trade in services (UN ServiceTrade);
• Gradually developing new methodology for the future of trade statistics, by linking trade and business statistics, integrating trade in goods and services and improving institutional arrangements at national level, as expressed in the "Vision 2020" document.

Ongoing and new activities:

• Concening the meetings of EG-CSITS for the development of the Compilers Guide for MSITS 2010;
• Contribute to the drafting of the compilation guide for IRTS 2008;
• Capacity development activities for the improvement of compilation practices and implementation of the new international recommendations (MSITS 2010);
• Continuation of data collection activities on a worldwide basis in cooperation with other involved international organizations;
• Supporting the work of the Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services, including publishing the Newsletter of the Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services and maintaining its website.

2.6 International trade and balance of payments (UNCTAD)

Creative Economies statistics

Ongoing work:

• In 2008, through a joint initiative of the UNCTAD Creative Economy Programme and the Statistics and Information Branch, the **UNCTAD Global Database on the Creative Economy** was launched and became publicly accessed at www.unctad.org/creative-economy and at **UNCTA Dstat** http://unctadstat.unctad.org/ReportFolders/reportFolders.aspx. The database presented a pioneer work by providing world trade statistics on creative goods and services on the basis of data reported by national sources to the United Nations for the period 1996-2006. The aim is to provide data for a comprehensive trade analysis with a view to support governments in policy-making and improve market transparency in areas related to the creative economy. This work was widely disseminated through the **Creative Economy Report - 2008.**

• In 2010, for the policy-oriented analysis provided at the **Creative Economy Report - 2010,** the methodology was improved and the database updated to cover the period 2002-2008. The statistics cover about 235 products related to heritage, arts, media and functional creations. Statistics were made available as tabular reports, tables and charts. In addition, UNCTAD provides examples of country profiles, and prepared the User Guide of UNCTAD Global Database on Creative Economy to facilitate users to prepare country profiles. In the most recent Creative Economy Report UNCTAD deepened the analysis of South-South trade and prepared a summary comparison of statistics methodology for creative and cultural goods. Moreover, for the first time, UNCTAD prepared tables and undertook analysis providing an overview of data for MFM applied and bound tariff rates for different creative industries sectors.

• By the end of 2011, the database was updated to provide trade statistics on creative goods and services up to 2010. Ultimate goal is to have annual data updates.

Foreign Direct Investment

Methodological work:

Participation in the joint working group EUROSTAT "FATS (foreign affiliates statistics)", OECD's Working Group on International Investment Statistics, and IMF Balance of Payments Statistics Committee.

Data collection and processing:

• Continuous update of the FDI database (FDI flows and stocks) and operations of TNCs (activities of foreign affiliates and parent firms). UNCTAD

maintains and regularly updates its databases on FDI, activities of TNCs, cross-border M&As and largest TNCs and disseminate the data through its annual report, World Investment Report, and UNCTADstat.

• Collection of FDI flow and stock data in line with internationally agreed recommendations, and dissemination of FDI data, including metadata and related information, through the UNCTAD data extract service.

Technical cooperation:

Two national workshops on FDI statistics were held in 2011, one in Guatemala in February 2011 and the other in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in December 2011. Two regional workshops on FDI data compilation and common reporting system in Latin and Central America were held in 2011, in Peru (March 2011) and Honduras (December 2011). In Peru, the regional workshop on FDI trends and the methodology in collecting data on FDI and TNC activities was conducted in collaboration with six countries in Latin America. In Honduras, the regional workshop was conducted in collaboration with SICA countries (System for the Central American Integration).

Planned activities for 2012:

• UNCTAD Workshop on FDI Trends and the Methodology in Collecting Data on FDI and TNC Activities in Nigeria.
• National Workshop on outward FDI, Saudi Arabia (first quarter of 2012).

International Merchandise Trade Statistics

Ongoing work:

• Preparation of the total merchandise trade statistics of Least Developed Countries that are integrated into the Common Data Set (CDS) which is a joint effort by Eurostat, OECD, UNSD, UNCTAD and WTO to reconcile their time series on merchandise trade statistics, using international standards as a benchmark.
• Updating UNCTAD Merchandise Total Trade and Trade Matrix (complete trade by partner and product containing estimates) twice a year.
• Quarterly updates of UNCTAD volume growth rates.

Methodological work:

• Participation in the Inter-agency Task Force on International Merchandise Trade Statistics (TF-IMTS).
• Calculation of volume, price and terms of trade indices and trade analytical indicators published in the UNCTAD Handbook of Statistics and on-line in UNCTADstat.
• Joint work with WTO in the calculation of quarterly volume indices.
• On-going plan to release various trade indicators.

Market Access Information

Ongoing work:

Methodological work:

• Contribution to the development of Common Data Repository for market access data including tariff, non-tariff measures (NTMs) and measures affecting services trade under the Transparency in Trade (TNT) initiatives launched in 2011 by UNCTAD, African Development Bank, ITC and the World Bank.
• Upgrade of WITS software in collaboration with the World Bank.

Data collection and processing:

• Update of the Database on Trade Control Measures covering tariff, Para-tariff and non-tariff measures disseminated in TRAINS (Trade Analysis and Information System).

New activities:

• Preparation of data for the fifth publication of the World Tariff Profile (joint publication with WTO and ITC).

Trade in Services

Ongoing work:

• Updating UNCTAD Trade in Services Statistics (Total trade and by category, annual) twice a year.

Methodological work:

• Participation in the Inter-agency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services (TF-SITS).
• Joint work with WTO in the compilation of quarterly and annual statistics of trade in services.
• Contribution to the work on MSITS Compilation Guides through active participation in Expert Group of SITS.

Data collection and processing:

• In light of the recommendation by UNSC, compilation of foreign affiliate trade in services statistics (FATS).

New activities:

• Implementation of the recommendations of the manual on trade of services.
• Collection of data on the operations of TNCs and foreign affiliates in host economies, including those in the services sector.
• Guidance to developing countries wishing to adopt internationally-agreed recommendations for the compilation of data on the operations of TNCs and their foreign affiliates in the services sector.
• Technical cooperation: In the framework of a MOU signed between UNCTAD and UEMOA, preparation of the regulation and statistical infrastructure needed for the collection and analysis of statistics on exports and imports of services in order to enable member states to define policies that are consistent with their development objectives.

2.6 International trade and balance of payments (World Bank)

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.

• 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.

• **The Quarterly External Debt (QEDS)** database, jointly developed by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, brings together detailed external debt data of countries that subscribe to the IMF's **Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS)** and **General Data Dissemination System (GDDS)**. 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 six SDDS countries (66) and forty four GDDS countries are currently participating in this initiative. The system is accessible from: http://www.worldbank.org/qeds.

• The Quarterly Public Sector Debt Statistics (QPSD) database, jointly developed by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, brings together detailed quarterly public sector debt data of selected developing /emerging market countries. The main purpose of the PSD database is to facilitate timely dissemination in standard formats of public sector debt data. By bringing such data and metadata together in one central location, the database supports macroeconomic analysis and cross-country comparison. The participation of countries in this centralized database is voluntary. Currently, 62 developing countries have agreed to participate and 34 provided data to the PSD database. The World bank and IMF in cooperation with OECD will invite the advanced economies to join this initiative starting in the year 2012. The database is updated quarterly and within one month of the end of a quarter. These databases aim to support countries' efforts toward improving the coverage and availability of public sector debt data. The system is accessible from: http://www.worldbank.org/qpsd.

• DECDG also published the Global Development Finance 2012: External Debt of Developing Countries, which is a continuation of the World Bank's publications Global Development Finance, Volume II (1997 through 2009), it contains statistical tables for 129 countries as well as summary tables for regional and income groups. To find-out more, go to http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/global-development-finance.

Foreign Trade Statistics

Ongoing work:

The web-based **World Integrated Trade Solution** (WITS) is a software developed by the World Bank, in close collaboration and consultation with various International Organizations including United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), International Trade Center (ITC), United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD) and World Trade Organization (WTO). This new software does not require installation and it is fully web-based. WITS gives you access to major international trade, tariffs and non-tariff data:

• The United Nations COMTRADE database maintained by UNSD
• The **TRAINS** maintained by the UNCTAD;
• The **IDB** and **CTS** databases maintained by the WTO.

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. In addition, WITS contains simulation tools that are extremely useful for trade negotiations. Users can simulate the impact of tariff changes on trade flows. To access the new WITS, visit http://wits.worldbank.org/WITS/.

In addition to the software, the Bank launched two new trade visualizers. Users can view their data using bubble charts and the map visualizer. "Bubble charts" display data in four dimensions. In each chart, the size of the country circle represents a volume measure, such as population or GDP. The position of the bubbles is determined by the indicators selected for the horizontal and vertical axes. The visualizer can be accessed from http://devdata.worldbank.org/TradeVisualizer/. The "map visualizer" animates the export and import trade data from the UNSD COMTRADE database by commodity and partner country from 1988-2008. It can be accessed from http://devdata.worldbank.org/TradeMapVisualizer/DataVisualizer.html.

2.6 International trade and balance of payments (World Trade Organization)

International Merchandise Trade Statistics and Tariff and Trade Databases

Ongoing work:

The WTO produces aggregate annual, quarterly, and monthly total merchandise trade statistics. For disaggregated merchandise trade statistics, the WTO is largely a user of other agencies' data. It complements these data with own estimates and adjustments to build country and product aggregates according to WTO definitions. In addition, through the inter-agency Task Force on International Merchandise Trade Statistics (TF IMTS) and other bodies, the WTO supports actively ongoing efforts to improve coordination in data collection and dissemination, development of concepts and definitions, and analysis of trade data.

On tariffs and tariff-related imports, the WTO collects primary data from national compilers. The WTO actively cooperates with UNCTAD and the International Trade Centre (ITC) to enhance the exchange and publication of tariff information and also maintains a database containing WTO Members' legal commitments on goods.

The WTO also coordinates the inter-agency MDG-Trade group of Geneva (ITC/UNCTAD/WTO) that monitors market access conditions for developing and least-developed countries and produces corresponding MDG indicators. Besides compiling the relevant information, work focuses on improving the measurement and interpretation of related MDG statistics by extending coverage and developing complementary indicators (http://www.mdg-trade.org).

The WTO also develops a new database called I-TIP. It allows users to access via one portal all trade policy information notified to the WTO by its members. Known as the Integrated Trade Intelligence Portal (I-TIP), the new application will encompass tariffs, non-tariff measures and related trade statistics.

Priority objectives:

To actively contribute to the development of a consistent, internationally recognized set of up-to-date international trade statistics and tariff information.

To implement an enhanced framework for the collection of WTO Members' submissions of tariffs and tariff-related import statistics for filling existing gaps of data.

New activities:

The WTO is actively pursuing the extension of activities to identify the countries' respective domestic (value-added) content. An OECD-WTO co-operation in 2012 will offer a methodological note on measuring trade in value added and a database on trade in value added terms. Other stakeholders will be consulted as needed.

The WTO will continue work on its I-TIP throughout 2012.

International Trade in Services Statistics

Ongoing work:

Active participation in the work of the inter-agency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services with particular emphasis on improving data quality of the international agencies' released statistics. Assist in developing compilation guidance for the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services (MSITS 2010); and organize and carry out statistical capacity building.

Priority objectives:

• cooperate with other agencies to improve data quality, and
• carry out statistical capacity building seminars and developing e-training modules (national and regional seminars).

New activities:

The WTO pursues co-operation with other agencies active in the compilation and dissemination of trade in services data to provide consistent and high quality data.

For technical assistance activities, WTO is building up database on ongoing activities at international, regional, and bilateral level, including a register of international experts that can assist implementation processes.

Alongside the I-TIP project, the WTO will also engage in an activity to develop a database on applied regimes for services and relevant trade flows.

Inter-agency Task Force on International Merchandise Trade Statistics

The Task Force has been established by the UN Statistical Commission. The World Trade Organization (WTO) convenes this Task Force and maintains a website for it providing relevant material on classifications, concepts and definitions, an inter-agency Common Data Set on the countries' total merchandise exports and imports, and technical assistance (http://imts.wto.org/).

Priority objectives:

• Through inter-agency collaboration, improve the coverage, consistency, quality and timeliness of aggregate and detailed merchandise trade statistics; and identify and analyze emerging statistical issues related to globalization and trade;
• Provide analysts, policy-makers and other users with easily accessible, analytically valuable data by maintaining an online, interactive database on the Task Force's website for the inter-agency Common Data Set (http://imts.wto.org/common_dataset_e.htm).

The Task Force decided to reconvene a formal meeting only in 2013 and will use OECD's Working Party on Trade in Goods and Services Statistics to hold informal discussions on the 2013 agenda.

2.7 Prices

Loading ...

2.7 Prices (CIS-STAT)

Price Statistics

• CIS-STAT collects and processes data on producer price indices, tariffs for goods transport and consumer price indices:
 - Monthly: producer price indices for the main kinds of economic activities (branches of industry) and consumer price indices.
 - Yearly: producer price indices for agricultural products, aggregate indices of prices in the construction industry, including prices for assembly work, and indices of tariffs for goods transport both for the transport industry generally and for individual modes of transport (for the Commonwealth countries which keep such records).

• Monitoring of the work of the CIS statistical services on the collection of data on consumer and investment commodities-representatives for the implementation of 2011 International Comparison Programme;

• The work is carried out on the development of a number of methodological documents concerning different issues of international GDP comparisons; the work on preparation of electronic forms to be used by the CIS countries for submission of data will be finalized;

• The division entitled "International Comparison Programme" created on the website of CIS-STAT is updated periodically.

New activities:

Envisaged for 2012 according to the International Comparison Programme are:

• Receipt from the CIS statistical services and analysis of estimates of average annual prices for investment and consumer commodities-representatives (jointly with Rosstat);

• Calculation of purchasing power parities for investment and consumer commodities-representatives and sending them for consideration to the countries participating in the comparison (jointly with Rosstat);

• Calculation of preliminary results of 2011 international comparison of GDP of the CIS countries and their submission to the participating countries (jointly with Rosstat);

• Conduct of two meetings of the CIS countries specialists:
- meeting on verification and reconciliation of data on prices for investment commodities-representatives, including construction objects (I quarter);
- meeting on verification and reconciliation of data on prices for consumer commodities-representatives purchased by households (II quarter).

2.7 Prices (ECB)

• Seasonal adjustment of the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices.

• Publication of quarterly euro area and selected national residential property price indices.

• Methodological work towards the compilation of a euro area commercial property price index.

• Methodological work towards the compilation of structural housing indicators covering residential and commercial property markets.

• Compilation of various euro area commodity price indices.

In close cooperation with Eurostat:

• Actively contribute to the further development and harmonisation of prices and costs statistics produced by the European Statistical System.

2.7 Prices (Eurostat)

Theme 2.06 - Prices

Fields of activities covered by the theme

• Production and development of Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs);
• Production and development of Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs);
• Development of house price indices/ prices for owner-occupied housing;
• Development of detailed multi-purpose consumer price statistics;
• Calculation of Correction Coefficients and Salary Adjustment for EU Staff;
• Development and production of information on Pension for EU Staff.

1. Work to be carried out by Eurostat in 2012

1.1 NEW WORK, INCLUDING NEW PLANNED LEGISLATION

• Commercial Property Prices Indices handbook;
• Re-engineering of the Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICP) production process in Eurostat;
• Report to European Parliament and Council on implementation of Purchasing Power Parities Regulation.

1.2 ONGOING WORK

• (Legislated) and ad-hoc Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICP) standards.
• Calculation and dissemination of monthly Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices; sub-indices and special aggregates; HICP at Constant Tax Rates; HICP Administered Prices.
• Owner-Occupied Housing: methodological guidance, technical manual and supply by National Statistical Institutes of pilot indices, Owner Occupied Housing regulation.
• Implementation by Member States of Regulations on Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) quality adjustment, sampling and weighting - further improvement of quality of HICPs.
• Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) Flash Estimate Production: calculation of HICP Flash Estimate.

• Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) compliance monitoring and quality control: assessing and verifying National Statistical Institutes compliance to HICP standards.
• Detailed consumer prices: more detailed price indices, detailed price levels, food chains monitoring tool.
• Detailed consumer prices: more detailed price indices, detailed price levels.
• Revision and update of the Purchasing Power Parities (PPP) manual.
• Development of a new methodology for Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs) for health services. Work is lead by OECD.
• PPP Inventories: evaluation of countries' sources and methods for Purchasing Power Parities (PPP).
• Purchasing Power Parities for 37 countries at GDP and components level; Eurobase update, press release, SIFs.
• Article 64 Intra-EU Statistics: methodology and results tables to DG Human Resources and Security.
• Article 65 Council Remuneration report and Statistics: methodology and results tables to DG Human Resources and Security.
• Actuarial calculation of the pension contribution rate in accordance with Annex XII of the Staff Regulations.
• Yearly calculation of the liability of the Joint Sickness Insurance Scheme Pension Scheme (JSIS) at 31st December.
• Yearly calculation of the liability of the Pension Scheme of Members of some EU Institutions (PSMI) at 31st December.
• Article 64 Extra-EU Statistics: Methodology and Results Package to DG Human Resources and Security and European External Action Service.
• Yearly calculation of the liability of the Pension Scheme of EU officials and other servants (PSEO) at 31st December.

2.7 Prices (FAO)

Agricultural Producer Prices

Ongoing work:

• Annual compilation and release of producer prices and agriculture producer price indices.

Consumer Price Indices (CPI)

Ongoing work:

• Monthly releases of monthly and annual overall CPI and Food CPI and related metadata information.

New activities:

• Development of price volatility indices and of a Cost of Production collection of good practices in view of a Handbook and Compilation Guildelines.
• Link different price datasets (e.g. input prices, output prices, trade unit values); this activity will include new derived indicators and value-chain analysis in agriculture.

2.7 Prices (ILO)

Prices

• The ILO, as a focal point for consumer price indices within the UN system, continues to:
i) collect and disseminate annual and monthly consumer price indices for some 200 countries and to produce and disseminate descriptions of the national methodologies underlying these indices;
ii) promote implementation of the international standards on CPI; and
iii) provide technical assistance to member States.

• In addition to the regular updating of the CPI annual and monthly series, the updating of the methodological descriptions of national CP series is being planed for 2012. It will be done in cooperation with FAO.

• In collaboration with the UNECE, the ILO is organazing a meeting on Consumer Price Indices that will take place on 30 May-1 June 2012 in Geneva.

The ILO continues to actively participate in the work of the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Price Statistics (IWGPS). As an agency responsible for the coordination of future revisions of the CPI Manual, ILO will continue maintaining the electronic version of the CPI manual on-line (see http://www.ilo.org/stat/index.htm). A number of chapters have already been updated. The webpage contains the original version, errata and the latest corrected version.

2.7 Prices (IMF)

Price Statistics

• The IMF participates in the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Price Statistics (IWGPS) and, the Technical Expert Group for Producer Price Indices (TEG-PPI) Program. The IMF continues to play a major role in the development and implementation of price statistics manuals, chairing the IWGPS in 2005 and 2006, publishing French and Spanish versions of the CPI Manual in 2006, Russian in 2007, and Chinese in 2008. The IMF edited and published the Export and Import Price Index Manual of the IWGPS in 2009, available in softcopy at http://www.imf.org/external/np/sta/tegeipi/index.htm. The IMF supports an initiative by the OECD to draft a House Price Index Handbook, following an OECD-IMF Workshop in 2006 on Real Estate Price Indices.

• The IMF maintains a presence in price index research and contributions to related manuals and handbooks, recent contributions including issues in hedonic indices, elementary index number formulas, real estate price indices, and the index of industrial production.

• The IMF will continue to conduct courses on consumer and producer price statistics, XMPIs, and core inflation.

• The IMF also conducts on-site missions to its member countries to assess the quality of their consumer and producer price indices and assist in their further development. The assessments are disseminated as data modules Report on Observance of Standards and Codes (ROSCs), as outlined in 2.2 above.

• The IMF provides technical assistance in price statistics to member countries through a variety of venues, including staff and expert missions to individual countries.

• The IMF collects and disseminates price statistics data on member countries through its International Financial Statistics publications and the DSBB, as well as providing hyperlinks to selected individual country data systems. Databases available to subscribers on CD-ROM include the following publications: International Financial Statistics (IFS) and the International Financial Statistics Yearbook.

• The monthly edition of IFS is available to subscribers on the Internet and the complete searchable IFS database has become available since January 2002.

• The IMF continued its contribution to the Technical Advisory Group of the International Comparisons Program (ICP) based at the World Bank. The ICP produces international price indices called purchasing power parities that allow comparison of GDP volume levels among countries for a benchmark year, most recently for 2005. In December 2007, the ICP issued purchasing power parities from its 2005 benchmark round that were subsequently used in the World Economic Outlook and IFS publications. The new price indices also were used in producing the ICP's GDP volume data for IMF member countries at purchasing power parity. The Fund is also participating in preparation for the release of 2011 round of the ICP and has contributed to its Handbook.

2.7 Prices (IWGPS)

Ongoing methodological work and priority objectives:

• Launch of an international Handbook on Residential Property Price Indices, coordinated by Eurostat, under the auspice of the IWGPS.
• Meeting of the Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices, jointly organised by UNECE and ILO, 30 May-1 June 2012 in Geneva.

2.7 Prices (OECD)

Price Indicators

Purpose

To provide a set of relevant, reliable, timely, monthly and quarterly price indices (CPI and Producer Price Indices) for internal and external users. To provide methodological information on these price indices.

Objectives and outputs

• The 'Price Indices' dataset in the Main Economic Indicators (MEI) database contains statistics on Consumer prices, Producer prices and Construction costs for 34 OECD member, Russian Federation and 5 B(R)IICS countries. The data series presented within these subjects have been chosen as the most relevant prices statistics in the MEI database for which comparable data across countries is available. In all cases much effort has gone into ensuring international comparability and into the availability of historical time-series for analysis.
• Revision of the Methodological guide for developing producer price indices for services.

Databases

MEI
MEI_PRICE

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

• Finalisation of the Methodological guide for developing producer price indices for services with a view to finalising work in 2012.
• Continue to improve the dissemination of price indices.

Data management:

Harmonisation of metadata across countries and introduction of new inflation measures.

Purchasing Power Parities

Purpose

Produce reliable and timely Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs) data for OECD member countries. PPPs are an important tool to compare levels of real income or real output across countries with indicators such as GDP per capita and relative price levels between countries.

Objectives and outputs

• Organisation of the data collection for the 2011 round which started in 2009 and covers 47 countries (30 OECD countries and 17 non-member countries).
• Work closely with Eurostat to further harmonise the methodology employed. Participate in the ad-hoc task forces set up by Eurostat to discuss various issues associated with PPPs 9Revision of the (PPP manual).
• Provide technical input into the 2011 round of the ICP currently being organised by the World Bank.
• Work closely with ELS on devleoping a new methodology for health specific PPPs (publication of a WP on hospital price levels).

Databases

ANA
Purchasing Power Parities

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Finalise the methodology to calculate specific PPPs for health for all countries participating in the Eurostat-OECD PP manual.

Provide technical input into the 2011 round of the ICP currently being organised by the World Bank.

Publication of the revised OECD Eurostat-OECD PPP manual.

Calculation of the preliminary results of the 2011 Round.

2.7 Prices (Ottawa Group on Price Indices)

Price Statistics

Ongoing Work:

• Applied research in the area of price indices, especially consumer price indices.
• Papers and proceedings are available on the group's website, http://www.ottawagroup.org/.

Priority objectives:

Undertake research with a view to providing advice to national statistical offices on:

1. Emerging issues in price indices including developments in weighting and calculation methodology as well as inclusion of new goods/services.
2. Procedures for dealing with quality change.
3. Price measurement for 'difficult-to-measure' such as insurance, health, legal services, financial services, apparel, cars, telecommunications and items subject to rapid technological change.
4. Use of scanner data to improve data quality and reduce price index compilation costs.
5. Housing and residential property price indices.
6. International comparisons including the International Comparison Programme (ICP).

Meetings:

The Ottawa Group last met in May 2011 at Statistics New Zealand in Wellington (12th Meeting). This meeting considered topics on:

• scanner data,
• price measurement for 'difficult to measure' products and services,

• housing and residential property price indices,
• developments in weighting and calculation methodology,
• intra and inter-national comparability and international comparisons, and
• emerging issues in price indices.

The next meeting (13th meeting) will be hosted by Statistics Denmark in 2013 at Copenhagen.

2.7 Prices (UNCTAD)

Commodity Prices

Ongoing work:

• Data collection and processing: Update of the commodity prices database and calculation of price indices, using the year 2000 as base year. Dissemination of the data in UNCTADstat.
• Annual calculation of price instability indices.

Methodological work:

• Plan to update the base year and composition of commodities along with their weight in the calculation of indices.

2.7 Prices (UNECE STAT)

Description and objectives

UNECE, in cooperation with the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other partners promotes the implementation of international standards and recommendations on Consumer Price Indices (CPI). A meeting to be organised in 2012 jointly with ILO will focus on residential property prices. The latest financial crisis revealed gaps and inconsistencies in this area making it difficult to design adequate policy measures. The meeting will discuss the new international *Manual on Residential Property Price Indices* developed under the auspices of the UN Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics. The meeting will also consider how to improve the methods of data collection and production of price statistics, and issues of particular importance to the EECCA countries.

Meeting to be organized in 2012:

Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices, Geneva, 30 May-1 June.

2.7 Prices (World Bank)

International Comparison Programme

• The International Comparison Program is a global statistical initiative under the auspices of the United Nations Statistical Commission, designed to collect comparative price data and compile detailed expenditure values of countries' gross domestic products (GDP), and to estimate purchasing power parities (PPPs) of the world's economies. It 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.

• The number of participating economies has grown to 198 in the current round, up from 146 in the 2005 ICP round. This round covers about 98 percent of the world population. According to information provided by ICP regions and OECD-Eurostat programme in October 2011, 155 countries have started survey in the 1st or 2ndquarter of 2011, out of 198 countries identified to participate in the program. Countries in Pacific Islands and Caribbean Islands are expected to conduct their price survey in 2012. The Global Office is expecting to receive validated 1st and 2nd quarter data from the ICP Regions by December 31, 2011.

• The overall work plan remains effectively on schedule and the final results are expected to be released in December 2013 as originally planned. The Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) is coordinating participation of 10 countries to the International Comparison Program. Activities for this region include collection of prices and National accounts data and processing of Purchasing Power Parities.

• In accordance with the ICP work schedule, in the CIS region, all 10 CIS participating countries have started to collect the data on prices for ICP in January of 2011. During the period from October 2010, to November 2011, major activities carried out in the CIS region included regional meetings on the regional list of consumer items and issues pertaining to the computation of GDP estimates.

• The meeting on the problems of achieving reliability and comparability of GDP data in national currencies on the basis of SNA 1993 was held in Moscow from November 30 to December 2, 2010. It was jointly organized by CIS- STAT and Rosstat and attended by two experts from each CIS country responsible for national accounts and price statistics respectively.

• The meeting on the preparation of the regional list was held in Astana (Kazakhstan) on November 8, 2011. It was attended by statistical experts from: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, and a representative of CIS -STAT.

• The meeting on harmonization of investment representative goods was held on March 23-25, 2011 in Moscow, Russia. The CIS regional list for machinery and equipment was discussed at the meeting. Methodological issues and specifications of construction materials were also discussed and the participants confirmed the use of the resource-technological models method (RTM), a method harmonized with the standard ICP methodology. The metadata tables recommended by the Global Office will be translated and sent to the countries in order to obtain their filled tables by June 2011.

For more information, please see http://www.worldbank.org/data/icp.

2.8 Labour cost (CIS-STAT)

Labour cost, wages and salaries

• Preparation of a review (report) entitled: "Labour Costs in the Commonwealth Countries". Consultations with the CIS countries on improving the recording and analysis of wages and salaries will continue.

2.8 Labour cost (ECB)

• Compilation of the euro area negotiated wages indicator.

2.8 Labour cost (ILO)

Wage Statistics

Ongoing methodological work:

• A manual on measurement of wages will be prepared that will provide guidance concerning the various concepts of income related to employment (i.e. labour cost, earnings, wage rates, employment related income, employee income and income from self employment) and their relationships; and the different approaches to measuring wages through establishments, households and administrative records. This manual will be done in collaboration with other international organisations and with national statistical institutes.

• Training and technical assistance will continue to be provided.

Data collection:

• Up-to date data on average wages by sex and industry are available on the ILO statistical website (http://laborsta.ilo.org).
• Data on current minimum wages and the legal framework are regularly compiled and are available on the ILO website at: http://www.ilo.org/travaildatabase/servlet/minimumwages.

2.9 Science and technology (CIS-STAT)

Science and Technology Statistics

Ongoing work:

• Collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of the data provided annually by the national statistical services, as an interstate exchange, on the level and composition of expenditure on research and development and on the number of specialists engaged in scientific research activities.

• CIS-STAT will continue consulting national statistical services on arrangements for statistical observation of science and technology activities based on accepted international standards for science statistics.

• Preparation of annual report entitled: "Scientific Research and Scientists in the Commonwealth Countries".

2.9 Science and technology (Eurostat)

Theme 5.06 - Science, technology and innovation

Fields of activities covered by the theme

Statistics developed under this theme provide a basis for the monitoring and benchmark exercise for the Europe 2020 strategy, the development

of the European Research Area (ERA) and the Innovation Union Initiative. Further topics are the re-engineering of research and innovation statistics and the possible integration of ICT statistics (see Theme 5.07).

Activities covered by the theme are:

• Production, dissemination and development of the Community Innovation Survey 2010-2012;
• Production, dissemination and development of the Research and Development statistics 2009-2011;
• Production, dissemination and development of the Patent statistics based on PATSTAT data source from European Patent Office;
• Production, dissemination and development of the Intellectual property rights statistics (other than Patent statistics) based on the adequate sources;
• Production and dissemination of the High Tech and Knowledge Intensive sectors statistics on the basis of Eurostat data;
• Developing new indicators for Commission strategy Europe 2020, European Research Area (ERA) and Innovation Union Initiative and managing and coordinating the related work.

1. Work to be carried out by Eurostat in 2012

1.1 NEW WORK, INCLUDING NEW PLANNED LEGISLATION

• Intellectual Property Rights, IPR, statistics (excluding patents): ensure the regular production and dissemination of IPR (Intellectual Property Rights) data and the related metadata with their envisaged extensions.
• Proposal to Working Group meeting for revising the Commission Regulation (EC) No 753/2004 of R&D and other STI statistics.
• Proposal to Working Group meeting for revising the Commission Regulation (EC) No 1450/2004 of community statistics on innovation.
• Explorative work towards an ERA indicators on research infrastructure.

1.2 ONGOING WORK

• Patent Statistics: ensure the regular production and dissemination of patent data and the related metadata with their envisaged extensions.
• Human Resources in Science and Technology Statistics: ensure the regular production and dissemination of Human Resources in Science and Technology data and the related metadata with their envisaged extensions.
• ERA Indicators: Develop a method for matching harmonized Patent applicant names (firms) with harmonized firm names from financial databases for creating SME patenting indicators.
• Looking at the potential for R&D and Community Innovation surveys (and beyond) re-design and search for synergies, including linking with other enterprise statistics.
• Intensified quality validation of R&D data: follow-up of ESTAT's and Member States' action plans from 2011.
• Maintain and improve Eurostat's set of ERA indicators; coordinate actions, metadata, quality evaluation and communication towards Commission.
• Research and Development Statistics: ensure the regular production and dissemination of R&D (Research and Development) and GBAORD (Government Budget Appropriations or Outlays on Research and Development) data and the related metadata with their envisaged extensions.
• High Tech Sector Statistics: ensure the regular production and dissemination of High Tech and Knowledge Intensive sectors' data and the related metadata with their envisaged extensions.
• Innovation Statistics: ensure the production and dissemination of Community Innovation Survey data 2010 and the related metadata.

2. Statistical work to be carried out by other DGs (including data collection from Member States) and/or EU Agencies

2.2 ONGOING WORK

• A project in developing detailed and exhaustive methodology for serving further breakdowns of the GBAORD data (on public science budgets) both in joint and open public R&D programmes.
• Renewal of contract to maintain, update and further develop its integrated internal STI database.
• Several projects to obtaining statistical data complementary to what is provided by the European Statistical System in particular bibliometric data, data on licensing and national patents, supplementary foreign affiliates R&D data.

2.9 Science and technology (OECD)

Analytical Business Enterprise Research and Development

Purpose

To provide a consistent and comparable data set across countries and over time on industrial R&D expenditures broken down by industry.

Objectives and outputs

The ANBERD (Analytical Business Enterprise Research and Development) database is continually revised to enhance the international comparability of time series on business enterprise R&D expenditure (BERD) by industry.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

China, Chinese Taipei, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa.

Databases

Analytical Business Enterprise Research and Development (ANBERD)

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

In 2011 the country coverage was expanded and improved data processing and checking routines were implemented. In 2012, the estimation techniques for missing data will continue to be improved and preparations will be made for the forthcoming move to ISIC Rev.4.

Data management:

Adapt the data production system to move from ISIC Rev3. to Rev4.

Biotechnology

Purpose

To establish international standards for the collection of biotechnology data across OECD member countries.

Objectives and outputs

Under the auspices of the National Experts of Science and Technology Indicators (NESTI) group, six Ad hoc Biotechnology Statistics meetings have been held to date. These meetings have achieved: an internationally agreed upon definition of biotechnology, a model survey for the collection of biotechnology data in member countries, and an inventory of biotechnology data collected in member and selected non-member countries.

OECD Biotechnology Statistics was released in 2009.

Key Biotechnology Statistics is updated annually and published online.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa, Thailand.

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Additional countries.

Careers of Doctorate Holders

Purpose

Collect data on the labour market outcome and mobility of doctorate holders.

Objectives and outputs

Collect data and update internal database, use data for analysis at the macro level, launch work using micro-data with interested countries, evaluate data collection and revise methodology accordingly.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Bulgaria, Chinese Taipei, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Romania, Russian Federation.

Databases

Indicators on Careers of Doctorate Holders

Main Developments for 2012

Data management:

New dataset.

Main Science and Technology Indicators

Purpose

To publish biannually the most commonly used indicators on science and technology on an internationally comparable basis. The database and publication are regularly updated with 76 (paper publication) to 140 (electronic publication) data series presenting resources devoted to R&D and measures of output and the impact of S&T activities.

Objectives and outputs

This biannual publication provides a set of indicators that reflect the level and structure of the efforts undertaken by OECD member countries and 7 non-member economies in the field of science and technology. These data include final and provisional results as well as forecasts established by government authorities. The indicators cover the resources devoted to research and development, patent families, technology balance of payments and international trade in highly R&D intensive industries. Also presented are the underlying economic series used to calculate these indicators. Series are presented for a reference year and the last six years for which data are available (paper publication) and beginning 1981 (electronic editions).

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, China, Chinese Taipei, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa.

Databases

Main Science and Technology Indicators

Main Developments for 2012

Data management:

MSTI database production system: migration from StatWorks to SAS software (2010-Q4).

Patent Statistics

Purpose

To develop an international statistical infrastructure for patents (including databases and methodologies), which will provide the conditions for improving the quality and international comparability of patent indicators. Development of policy-relevant indicators from this work. Serves as a basis for policy relevant studies carried out within and outside OECD.

Objectives and outputs

The main objective is to develop patent databases suitable for calculating indicators for statistical and S&T/Entrepreneurship policy purposes, covering patent filings to national and regional patent offices across the world.

Currently, the following patent statistics are collected and processed on a regular basis: indicators based on EPO (European Patent Office) patent; indicators based on USPTO (US Patent and Trademark Office) patents; indicators based on patent applications filed under the PCT (Patent Co-operation Treaty) and "triadic" patent families indicators. EPO and PCT data are also broken at the lowest regional level (NUTS3/TL3) for all OECD countries and selected economies.

Patent statistics are published in various publications: Main Science and Technology Indicators; OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard; OECD Science, Technology and Industry Outlook and in the Statistical compendium of the Innovation Strategy

"Measuring innovation: a new perspective".

The focus of the methodological work is to provide guidelines for compiling patent statistics and indicators, and to provide users with methodological information in a transparent manner. The following issues have been investigated: criteria for counting patent data; triadic patent families' definition; patent data for specific technology area; patent data by industry, patents by region and patent citations. The OECD Patent Statistics Manual 2009 provides further guidelines for analysing and building patent statistics in the framework of S&T indicators.

A matching exercise is currently being performed at the micro-data level, linking the patent data to the firm level databases (e.g. ORBIS database of Bureau van Dijk) using the patent applicant name. A database on harmonised patent applicant's names (HAN) is available to researchers. It is currently being improved and expanded, and is used to build new indicators at the firm level.

Similar work is also conducted for other intellectual property assets such as Trademarks.

Regular conferences on IP-related statistics are jointly organised by OECD, EPO, USPTO, JPO, WIPO and Eurostat.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Asia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Europe, Georgia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Other, Peru, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, World.

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Updating the existing patent database; extending the data coverage (i.e. to include information from more national patent offices); expand the exercise of harmonising patent applicant's names and matching with firm-level databases, development of further patent indicators (reflecting globalisation, specific technologies); development of citations indicators, development of further analytical applications of patent data, patents by industry.

Increased use by other directorates (e.g. ECO, ENV, GOV, STD) expected in 2012.

Further work to develop Trademark data are also expected.

Another matching exercise is experimented to link patent data (with the citations of non-patent literature) to scientific publication data (using Elsevier's SCOPUS database).

Research and Development (R&D) Statistics

Purpose

To provide internal and external users with statistics on R&D expenditures and personnel and to ensure, through appropriate methodological work, the international comparability of corresponding national statistics.

Objectives and outputs

Management and/or development of internationally comparable statistics on resources devoted to R&D in member countries and in seven non-member economies based on the OECD international methodology for R&D survey, the "Frascati Manual". Diffusion of S&T statistics and corresponding metadata via the annual "R&D Statistics" and the biannual "Main S&T Indicators" publications and the on-line "R&D Sources and Methods database". The country coverage of OECD S&T databases and publications is being expanded to include comparable S&T indicators and statistics for non-member economies such as Argentina, China, Romania, Russia, Singapore, South Africa and Chinese Taipei.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, China, Chinese Taipei, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa.

Databases

Research and Development Statistics (RDS)

Main Developments for 2012

General aspects:

Plan to publish ISIC Rev. 4, depending on the availability of data at the national level.

Sources and Methods for Research and Development (R&D) Statistics

Purpose

To meet demand for country-specific and item-specific methodology, this database relates principally to R&D as reported by the units performing the R&D in line with the standard methodology for R&D statistics recommended by OECD in the Proposed Standard Practice for Surveys of Research and Experimental Development - Frascati Manual (OECD).

Objectives and outputs

The database provides detail on methods used in the member countries and seven non-member economies when compiling the R&D data reported to OECD in the framework of the International Survey of the Resources devoted to R&D by OECD countries, underlining both current

and historical national specificities of the data stored in the OECD STI/EAS R&D database. The sources and methods are regularly updated as part of the International Survey of the Resources devoted to R&D by OECD countries. The Secretariat has made this database available on line either through the NESTI-NET: http://webdomino1.oecd.org/COMNET/STI/NESTI-NET.nsf/Welcome?openframeset, or via http://webnet.oecd.org/rd_gbaord_metadata/default.aspx where delegates and the public are able to consult.

Selected metadata are regularly published in "Research and Development Statistics" (annual electronic publication) as well as in "Main Science and Technology Indicators" (paper and electronic publication appearing twice yearly). This information was also used as input to the revision of the "Frascati Manual", the international standard methodology for the measurement of resources devoted to R&D.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, China, Chinese Taipei, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa.

Databases

R&D_SM database

2.9 Science and technology (UNESCO)

Research and Development, Human Resources in Science and Technology and Innovation

Work Programme

The current programme of the UIS includes:

• Collection and publication of data and metadata on research and development (R&D) from all countries in the world in co-ordination with OECD, Eurostat and RICYT (Latin American network on S&T indicators);
• Pilot data collection on innovation conducted in almost 20 developing countries;
• Establishing and maintaining an inventory of innovation surveys carried out worldwide;
• Development of guidelines on how to conduct R&D surveys in developing countries;
• Promotion of a model survey on the careers of doctorate holders in a joint project with OECD and Eurostat;
• Publications on the results of the R&D data collection;
• Training workshops on STI statistics.

Ongoing methodological work

• Prepare guidelines on how to conduct R&D surveys in developing countries, including the development of a model questionnaire;
• Review methodological issues in the former centrally planned economies (Commonwealth of Independent States) when producing R&D data according to Frascati Manual standards;
• Revise concepts used for S&T Education and Training (STET) and S&T Services (STS);
• Contribute to ongoing work on measuring innovation in agriculture, the informal sector and the public sector.

Priority objectives beyond 2012:

• 2012 UIS R&D survey;
• Establish global data collection on innovation conducted on a biennial basis;
• Capacity building activities;
• Methodological guidance for developing countries on the collection of R&D and innovation data;
• Analysis of STI indicators.

New work to be undertaken in 2012:

• Analysis of the pilot collection of innovation data;
• Publications on international mobility of researchers and R&D data (digital atlas and booklet);
• Process and disseminate R&D metadata;
• Develop a model innovation survey in cooperation with RICYT;
• Produce a statistical annex to the World Social Science Report 2013;
• Develop system to calculate regional averages;

Meetings to be organized in 2012:

• Capacity building workshops in Africa, the Pacific, Asia (Gulf countries) and South-Eastern Europe, including national workshops in Viet Nam and Qatar.