Approved

STATISTICAL PROGRAMME

OF THE UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

2011

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Frequently used abbreviations

CES – Conference of European Statisticians

CIS-STAT – Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States

DISA – Database of International Statistical Activities

ECLAC – Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

EECCA countries – Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia: Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

ESCAP – Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

EU – European Union

EXCOM – UNECE Executive Committee

FAO – Food and agriculture organization

ICT – information and communication technologies

ILO – International Labour Office

IMF – International Monetary Fund

MDGs – Millennium Development Goals

NSO – national statistical organization/office

OECD – Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

SDMX – Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange

SEE countries – South-East European countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia

SPECA – UN Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan)

UN DESA – United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

UNECE – United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

UNSC – United Nations Statistical Commission

UNSD – United Nations Statistical Division (New York)

WHO – World health Organization

Introduction

1. The Annual Statistical Programme of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) has been regularly compiled since 2004. The main purpose of the Statistical Programme is to give an overview of all statistical activities carried out by the various Divisions and Units of the UNECE. The compilation of the Statistical Programme facilitates the work of the UNECE Statistical Division in fulfilling its mandate of coordinating the statistical activities of the UNECE, and of the Conference of European Statisticians and its Bureau in providing guidance to other UNECE Sectoral Committees on statistically related activities. It also serves as the basis for reporting the work undertaken by the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) to the Executive Committee of the UNECE.

2. The Statistical Programme is prepared by the UNECE Statistical Division. It is compiled for a calendar year.

3. The presentation of the statistical activities conforms to the following structure:

  I.   Statistical activities undertaken by the UNECE Statistical Division: 38 statistical activities by the Statistical Division are identified and grouped into nine clusters:

  - Coordination of international statistical work in the UNECE region.
  - Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic statistics.
  - Collection, processing and dissemination of social and demographic statistics.
  - Support for processing and dissemination of statistics.
  - Methodological work in economic statistics.
  - Methodological work in social and demographic statistics.
  - Methodological work in environment and sustainable development statistics and related areas.
  - Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics.
  - Technical assistance to UNECE member countries.

  II.   Statistical activities undertaken by other UNECE Divisions, including 7 activities.

4. A short summary description of the overall objective and main actions of the cluster is provided in the beginning of each cluster. The description of statistical activities has the following structure:

  - Description and objectives.
  - Activities and output.
  - Organizations and groups involved.

5. Annex I provides a list of meetings planned to take place in 2011. Some of the meeting dates are still preliminary and subject to change. The up-to-date list of meetings is available at the Statistical Division's website at http://www.unece.org/stats/.

6. Annex II includes a list of outputs planned to be finalised or made available during 2011.

7. Annex III lists the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement as defined in the UN Programme Budget Plan for the 2010-2011 biennium. The expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement are used as a basis for planning the budget and for evaluating

the work of the UNECE Statistical Division within the UN biennial planning and reporting system.

8.   A shorter, summary version of the work programme of the UNECE Statistical Division is prepared as a separate document to be submitted to the UNECE Executive Committee for approval. The short version will include the following information extracted from the current document:

- Summary descriptions of the clusters;
- List of meetings to take place in 2011:
- List of outputs to be prepared in 2011;
- List of technical cooperation activities;
- Expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement for the 2010-2011 biennium.

Part I. Activities undertaken by the UNECE Statistical Division

1. Coordination of international statistical work in the UNECE region

Summary description of the cluster

Objective:

Ensure coordination of international statistical activities in the UNECE region and provide a forum for Heads of national and international statistical organizations to address issues of current interest, exchange experience, and develop standards and recommendations to improve national statistics and their international comparability. Promote the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics within the region and the international statistical community.

Actions:

1) Act as the Secretariat of the UNECE Sectoral Committee on statistics, the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) and its Bureau,
2) maintain a database of international statistical activities in the region (DISA),
3) coordinate the work of the Teams of Specialists (Steering Groups, Task Forces, Groups of Experts, etc.) working under the umbrella of the CES;
4) as a custodian organization of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, promote their implementation in the region and carry out global assessments of national statistical systems;
5) coordinate the technical cooperation activities in statistics in Central Asia.

1. Coordination of international statistical work in the UNECE region

Activity 1.1: Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)

Description and objectives

Maintain an online database providing information on statistical work of about 30 international organizations. The Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA) is an important tool to assist the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) in fulfilling its primary role – to coordinate the statistical work undertaken by the various international organizations in the UNECE region.

Activities and output

♦ Prepare and publish the 2011 issue of the database.
♦ Start the preparations for the 2012 issue of the database.
♦ Provide input to the in-depth reviews of the CES Bureau in specific statistical areas where significant developments have taken place, coordinated action is needed or there is a lack of activities at the international level.
♦ Monitor the use of the database and ask for feedback in order to improve presentation and functionality of the database.
♦ Promote DISA classification of statistical activities as a global statistical standard, assist the CES Bureau in maintaining the classification.

1. Coordination of international statistical work in the UNECE region

Activity 1.2: Secretariat support for the work of the CES and its Bureau

Description and objectives

Provide secretariat support for the work of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES), the Sectoral Committee of the UNECE Statistical Division and its Bureau that steers the work of the Conference. The CES coordinates the statistical activities of the three main international organizations working in the UNECE region, Eurostat, OECD and UNECE, as well as the statistical activities of other organizations, such as CIS-STAT, UNSD, IMF, ILO, WHO and the World Bank. The CES provides a forum for Heads of national and international statistical agencies to address issues of current interest, discuss the region's common statistical problems, exchange experience, and formulate common solutions and recommendations.

Activities and output

♦ Organize and service the CES Bureau meetings (February 2011 (a short meeting during the UNSC session), June 2011, and October/November 2011).
♦ Organize and service the annual plenary session of the CES (Geneva, the week of 13-17 June 2011), which includes three modules: a session on formal business and two seminar sessions.
♦ Provide secretariat support in the preparation of the CES seminars on "Organization of data collection and data sharing / implementation of the standard for Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX): management challenges from the national perspective" and "Measuring human capital" during the CES 2011 plenary session.
♦ Coordinate the implementation of follow-up activities of the CES 2010 and 2011 plenary sessions.
♦ Prepare the UNECE Statistical Programme 2012.
♦ Report on the work of the CES to the EXCOM.
♦ Coordinate the Teams of Specialists that work under the auspices of the CES in various statistical areas and report on their activities to the Conference and its Bureau.

1. Coordination of international statistical work in the UNECE region

Activity 1.3: Monitoring the implementation of fundamental principles for official statistics

Description and objectives

Monitor the adherence to, and advocate for, the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in UNECE Member countries, with special focus on the countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) and South-East Europe (SEE). Ensure adherence to the Principles Governing International Statistical Activities within UNECE Secretariat.

Activities and output

- Support the implementation of Fundamental Principles in EECCA and SEE countries, by providing advice for legal and organisational aspects of official statistics.
- Promote the full implementation of the Principles Governing International Statistical Activities in the UNECE Secretariat.
- (See also 9.1 Global assessments of national statistical systems.)

2. Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic statistics

Summary description of the cluster

Objective:
Make available reliable, timely and comparable data on core indicators on short-term and structural economic statistics for all the countries of the UNECE region, and a number of different regional aggregates within the UNECE area.

Actions:
Maintain an online macroeconomic database in the following areas: national accounts main aggregates, industrial production, labour force, wages, price indices, purchasing power parities, exchange rates, interest rates, balance of payments and external debt.

2. Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic statistics

Activity 2.1: Economic data collection, analysis and advice (Economic database)

Description and objectives

Collect, process and publish economic statistics for the UNECE Member Countries in a publicly available database with online access via English and Russian interfaces. The database provides comparable data on core indicators on short-term and structural economic statistics for all the countries of the UNECE region and a number of different regional aggregates within the UNECE area.

Activities and output

♦ Maintain an online database providing macroeconomic data in the following areas: national accounts main aggregates, industrial production, labour force, population, wages, price indices, Purchasing Power Parities, exchange rates, interest rates, balance of payments, and external debt.
♦ Improve quality of published data, focusing on better coverage, timeliness, relevance and comparability, in line with the UNECE data quality framework.
♦ Improve coverage of seasonally adjusted data for selected macro-economic series.

3. Collection, processing and dissemination of social and demographic statistics

Summary description of the cluster

Objective:
Make available reliable, timely and comparable social and demographic statistics with gender breakdown, and data relevant to the achievement of the goals contained in the Millennium Declaration (MDGs)

Actions:
1) Maintain an online database providing data with gender breakdown in the following areas: population, fertility, families and households, work and the economy, education, public life and decision making, health and mortality, crime and violence, science and information and communication technologies, and work-life balance;
2) Maintain a regional repository of data to monitor the achievement of MDGs.

3. Collection, processing and dissemination of social and demographic statistics

Activity 3.1: Gender statistics database

Description and objectives

Collect, process and publish gender statistics for the UNECE Member Countries in a publicly available database with online access via English and Russian interfaces. The database provides a comprehensive framework of statistical indicators on gender-relevant issues, and is geared to guide countries in establishing national frameworks for monitoring gender equality.

Activities and output

♦ Maintain the database in the following areas: population, fertility, families and households, work and the economy, education, public life and decision making, health and mortality, crime and violence, science and ICT, and work-life balance.
♦ Improve quality of published data, focusing on better coverage, timeliness and comparability, in line with the UNECE data quality framework.
♦ Expand the statistics on gender pay gap by including the breakdown by level of education in the 2011 questionnaire on gender statistics.
♦ Make available timely sex-disaggregated statistical data relevant to gender policy analysis.
♦ Implement a marketing strategy and disseminate materials to promote the database.

3. Collection, processing and dissemination of social and demographic statistics

Activity 3.2: MDG database

Description and objectives

Maintain a user-friendly regional repository of data to facilitate regional and national monitoring of the progress towards the goals specified in the Millennium Declaration in countries of East and South-East Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. Provide data that are not currently available from international sources and include: (i) additional indicators relevant for the region and (ii) additional disaggregation by sex, region and ethnic group, where possible. This activity will be carried out in conjunction with other UNECE activities on MDG monitoring and reporting.

Activities and output

♦ Collect and publish relevant, timely and harmonized statistics for monitoring the goals specified in the Millennium Declaration in countries of East and South-East Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia.
♦ Establish a publicly available Regional MDG Database in cooperation with UNICEF, UNDP, and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).
♦ Maintain a network of MDG focal points in national statistical offices and make available online networking tools to facilitate communication at national and international levels.
♦ Develop a marketing strategy and materials to promote the database.

Organizations and groups involved

UNDP
UNFPA
UNICEF

4. Support for processing and dissemination of statistics

Summary description of the cluster

Objective:
Provide information on the activities of UNECE Statistical Division and maintain the necessary tools to support the processing and dissemination of data.

Actions:
1) Maintain and develop the database infrastructure for processing and dissemination of data;
2) Prepare publications, articles and promotional materials to publicize the work of the UNECE Statistical Division.

4. Support for processing and dissemination of statistics

Activity 4.1: Infrastructure for processing and disseminating statistical data

Description and objectives

Maintain and develop the necessary database infrastructure to support the processing and dissemination of statistical data. Coordinate UNECE data production regarding the consistency of statistical data and terminology, and the use of data collection, storage and dissemination methods.

Activities and output

♦ Ensure a database system to meet the needs of users, allowing the collection, processing and dissemination of UNECE statistical data (Statistical Division, Transport Division, Trade and Timber Division).
♦ Implement the relevant parts of the UNECE data quality improvement plan.
♦ Improve data quality, consistency of time series and consistency across different databases.
♦ Provide an infrastructure for free of charge Internet dissemination of UNECE statistical data, in English and Russian, to all interested users.

4. Support for processing and dissemination of statistics

Activity 4.2: Dissemination of information, promotion of statistical activities and support to clients

Description and objectives

Provide statistical data and information about the activities of the UNECE Statistical Division. Improve awareness about UNECE statistics and the Conference of European Statisticians. Maintain a good perception of UNECE statistics among the external users.

Activities and output

- Prepare up-to-date, relevant and well-presented statistical information and analytical notes for the "Facts and Figures" of "UNECE Weekly", as well as short articles on an ad-hoc basis, reflecting important statistical events or news.
- Provide press releases for events and outputs that may attract the attention of the media, for distribution through the UNECE Information Office.
- Publish promotional materials (in hard-copy or through the website) for various purposes, for example "What UNECE does for you".
- Produce promotional announcements for exceptional events and new outputs via the UNECE Statistics website and targeted mailing lists.
- Provide up-to-date information on the UNECE Statistics website about statistical activities of the UNECE and the CES in accordance to the needs of various target groups of users, as identified through usability testing.
- Actively participate in the implementation of the UNECE Web Content Management System and other activities of the UNECE Web Working Group. Improve the web communication of the UNECE, and ensure that statistical needs are reflected.
- Support external users of the information disseminated by the UNECE Statistical Division via the Internet, including timely replies to user requests.
- Improve further the IT tools for external user support.
- Produce quarterly analysis of access to individual data cubes, and web site traffic measured using Google Analytics.
- Conduct an annual satisfaction survey of database users.
- Manage and coordinate the Statistical Division's publications programme.

4. Support for processing and dissemination of statistics

Activity 4.3: Statistical profiles of UNECE member countries

Description and objectives

Publish and distribute the 2011 issue of "UNECE Countries in Figures" based on data from the UNECE statistical database. This publication is aimed to increase awareness about the UNECE region, and to promote official statistics and the UNECE in general.

Activities and output

♦ Provide a statistical overview of the socio-economic situation in countries of the region to non-expert users.
♦ Make available in paper and electronic format, key data for countries and territories in the UNECE region (subject to availability of official data).
♦ Update electronic data in the "Countries Overview" data cube, reflecting the proposed content of the 2011 paper version of "UNECE Countries in Figures".
♦ Publish the paper version of the 2011 issue by March 2011.

5. Methodological work in economic statistics

Summary description of the cluster

Objective:
Development and implementation of internationally recommended standards and practices to improve the quality and comparability of economic statistics, particularly in the areas of national accounts, globalisation, price statistics, business registers and short-term economic statistics.

Actions:
1) prepare manuals, guidelines, recommendations and compilations of best practices to help countries in implementing internationally recommended standards, classifications and good practices;
2) carry out research and surveys of country practices to analyse the status of implementation of standards and guidelines, and to develop recommendations;
3) provide a forum for exchange of experience, identification of best practices and developing common solutions to improve the quality and comparability of economic statistics;
4) provide technical assistance and advice to South-East European and EECCA countries to promote the implementation of standards and best practices.

5. Methodological work in economic statistics

Activity 5.1: National accounts

Description and objectives

Promote the implementation of the methodology of the System of National Accounts (SNA) in the UNECE region with an emphasis on SEE and EECCA countries. Carry out technical assistance activities, research work and surveys of country practices. Contribute to the work of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA) on development of the global implementation strategy for the 2008 SNA and its adaptation to the needs of the EECCA and SEE countries.

Activities and output

- Contribute to the development of global implementation strategy and international methodological standards, guidelines and manuals for the implementation of 2008 SNA.
- With the assistance of the Steering Group on national accounts work towards promoting international standards in the UNECE region and their adaptation to the needs of the EECCA and SEE countries.
- In close cooperation with partner organisations provide technical assistance to the SEE and EECCA countries in the implementation of 2008 SNA, improvement of the availability and quality of national accounts data, and implementation of other international standards related to national accounts (e.g. economic classifications).
- Contribute to the work on the research agenda of the 2008 SNA, led by the ISWGNA.
- Organise the training workshop on the use of Government Finance Statistics for Compilation of National Accounts targeting economies in transition and other interested countries (in cooperation with IMF and EFTA) in May 2011 in Geneva.
- Organise a seminar on 2008 SNA and related economic statistics for the EECCA and other interested countries.

Organizations and groups involved

Eurostat
OECD
CIS-STAT
ISWGNA (composed of UN Statistics Division, UN Regional Commissions, CIS-STAT, Eurostat, IMF, OECD, and the World Bank.)
CES Steering Group on National Accounts

5. Methodological work in economic statistics

Activity 5.2: Impact of globalisation on national accounts

Description and objectives

Provide a forum to review the main distortions in national accounts caused by the globalization of economies. Develop guidelines/best practices on how to deal with these distortions in the compilation and reconciliation of data for national accounts and their source statistics.

Activities and output

♦ Service the Group of Experts on the impact of globalisation on national accounts (GGNA), organised jointly with Eurostat and OECD. The Group coordinates its activities with other international initiatives undertaken in this area.
♦ Service the leadership sub-group of GGNA.
♦ Contribute to the production of the publication *Impact of Globalisation on National Accounts. Practical Guidance* describing the main globalization aspects affecting national accounts. The publication will provide solutions and best practices on how to improve surveying, processing and integration of the data and how to achieve better international consistency. The publication will support the implementation of the 2008 SNA.
♦ Coordinate the finalization of the publication, its submission for approval by the CES in June 2011 and undertake the printing and distribution of the publication.

Organizations and groups involved

CES Group of Experts on impact of globalisation on national accounts
Eurostat
OECD
ISWGNA

5. Methodological work in economic statistics

Activity 5.3: Price indices

Description and objectives

Support development and implementation of internationally accepted standards and best practices in price statistics through international cooperation, methodological work and technical assistance, particularly in the South-East European and EECCA countries.

Activities and output

♦ Provide methodological and technical assistance on price statistics to SEE and EECCA countries to support implementation of internationally recommended practices.
♦ Serve as chair and secretariat of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics (IWGPS).
♦ Contribute actively to the international work on price indices and international price index manuals, such as the CPI and PPI Manuals.
♦ Contribute to the production of the *Handbook on Residential Property Price Indices*.
♦ Maintain and update the electronic version of the *Practical Guide to Producing Consumer Price Indices. A Supplementary Handbook to the Consumer Price Index Manual*.
♦ Organise a regional Workshop on price indices for Central Asian and possibly other EECCA countries.

Organizations and groups involved

Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics
Organising Committee of the Ottawa Group on Price Indices
ILO
IMF

5. Methodological work in economic statistics

Activity 5.4: Business registers

Description and objectives

Support development and implementation of internationally accepted standards and best practices in the area of statistical business registers through international cooperation, methodological work and technical assistance, particularly in the South-East European and EECCA countries. The aim is to improve the quality and international comparability of statistical business registers in the region and reduce existing gaps between western and eastern countries, in particular in respect of the use of administrative data and other secondary sources.

Activities and output

♦ Organise and conduct the meeting of the Group of Experts on Business Registers in September 2011 in cooperation with Eurostat and OECD.
♦ Finalise and publish an analytical report based on the results of the 2010 UNECE survey on business registers and supporting dataset.
♦ Comparison of existing practices and NSOs preparedness of South-East European and EECCA countries for including enterprise groups in the statistical business registers and for producing business demography statistics based on business registers.
♦ Survey on the needs for guidelines on business registers in terms of a manual or handbook targeted at the South-East European and EECCA countries.
♦ Follow-up on the implementation of the revisions of NACE and ISIC classifications into business registers in South-East European and EECCA countries.

Organizations and groups involved

Eurostat
OECD
Steering Group of the Wiesbaden City Group on Business registers
Friends of the Chair Group on Integrated Economic Statistics

5. Methodological work in economic statistics

Activity 5.5: Short-term economic statistics (STS)

Description and objectives

Contribute to the development and implementation of internationally accepted standards, norms and best practices in the field of STS through international cooperation, methodological work and technical assistance. The work aims at improved international comparability of STS with special focus on assisting the South-East European and EECCA countries in STS methodology and seasonal adjustment.

Activities and output

♦ Co-operate with national and international organisations in improving recommendations, guidelines and methods applied in the production of STS.
♦ Support the development of STS in accordance with the 2008 System of National Accounts and the revisions of NACE and ISIC classifications.
♦ Promote application of international recommendations for STS, in particular the Recommendations for the Index of Industrial Production (by UNSD) and the European Statistical System (ESS) Guidelines for Seasonal Adjustment.
♦ Support Central Asian and other EECCA countries by conducting regional workshops and by preparing practical instructions in English and Russian on STS and seasonal adjustment.
♦ In order to enable comparison of data, perform seasonal adjustment of Industrial Production Index for countries that have not yet established national practices for seasonal adjustment.
♦ Help in reviewing international comparability and in improving the applied methods of Industrial Production Index and other STS indicators, if requested by a country.

6. Methodological work in social and demographic statistics

Summary description of the cluster

Objective:
Development and implementation of internationally recommended standards and practices to improve the quality and comparability of social and demographic statistics, particularly in the areas of population and housing censuses, migration statistics, gender statistics, health statistics, crime and justice statistics, measurement of the quality of employment, indicators related to the goals contained in the Millennium Declaration, and statistics on income, living conditions and poverty.

Actions:
1) prepare manuals, guidelines, recommendations and compilations of best practices to help countries in implementing internationally recommended standards, classifications and practices;
2) carry out research and surveys of country practices to analyse the status of implementation of standards and recommendations when appropriate;
3) provide a forum for exchange of experience, discussion of best practices and development of common solutions to improve the quality and comparability of social and demographic statistics;
4) maintain an informal network of Directors of Social Statistics of selected interested CES member countries and international organizations, with the objective to discuss and identify emerging issues in social statistics that require methodological work at the international level;
5) provide technical assistance and advice to countries of Eastern and South-eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia to promote the implementation of standards and best practices.

6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics

Activity 6.1: Population and housing censuses

Description and objectives

Promote the implementation of the *CES Recommendations for the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses* and support countries in all activities related to the population and housing census of the 2010 round, taking into account the different methodological approaches adopted, including register-based censuses and other innovative approaches. Together with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), UNECE Secretariat leads assistance on population and housing census in South-Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Activities and output

♦ Provide support to member countries for the planning and successful implementation of a population and housing census in the 2010 census round, based on the *CES Recommendations for the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses.* A large number of UNECE countries (including all EU countries) are expected to conduct the census in 2011.
♦ Provide training and technical assistance to countries of Eastern and South-eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia in the field of population and housing censuses, based on their expressed needs and in compliance with the CES Census Recommendations (see also activity 9.1).
♦ Start preparations for two joint UNECE-Eurostat meetings tentatively planned in Spring 2012: Joint Meeting on Population and Housing Censuses, and the Expert Group Meeting on Register-Based Censuses.
♦ Contribute actively to the International Monitoring and Observation missions in the UN Administered Region of Kosovo and in Bosnia and Herzegovina, aimed at ensuring that the next population and housing censuses are planned and conducted in accordance with the internationally agreed standards (in particular the CES Census Recommendations and the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics) and that the enumeration is fair and impartial.

Organizations and groups involved

CES Steering Group on Population and Housing Censuses
United Nations Population Fund
UNSD
Eurostat

6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics

Activity 6.2: Migration statistics

Description and objectives

Contribute to the improvement of the quality and availability of statistics on international migration by developing common definitions, methods and practices, and promoting them across the UNECE region.

Activities and output

♦ Provide technical assistance to countries of Eastern and South-eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia to develop further their migration data, by improving existing sources and increasing data exchange within and between countries.

♦ Provide secretariat support to the Steering Group on migration statistics and related task forces.

♦ Support the activities of the Task Force on improving migration and migrant data using household surveys and other sources (also called "Suitland Working Group"), including a Task Force meeting tentatively planned in spring 2011.

♦ Lead the research project on the measurement of "hard-to-count" migrant groups, carried out in the framework of the activities of the Suitland Working Group.

♦ Prepare a final report of the Task Force on the analysis of international migration estimates using different length of stay definitions.

♦ Support and contribute to the activities of the Task Force on the measurement of the socio-economic conditions of migrants (subject to approval by the CES Bureau in November 2010).

♦ Finalise the activities planned in the framework of the global UN Development Account project of the 6th Tranche (2009-2011) "Strengthening national capacities to deal with international migration" (see activity 9.2).

♦ Start preparations for the Joint UNECE-Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics tentatively planned in spring 2012.

Organizations and groups involved

CES Steering Group on migration statistics
CES Task Force on analysing migration using different length of stay definitions
CES Task Force on improving migration and migrant data using household surveys and other sources ("Suitland Working Group")
Eurostat
UNSD
United Nations Population Division

6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics

Activity 6.3: Gender statistics

Description and objectives

Provide an institutional framework for the work on gender statistics in the region aiming to improve the quality of information on gender equality.

Activities and output

♦ Support the capacity development in UNECE countries to collect, produce, disseminate and use statistics on the role of women and men in society and to facilitate the integration of gender issues in national statistical systems (see activity 9.2).
♦ Provide secretariat support to the CES Steering Group on Gender Statistics and the related task forces.
♦ Support and contribute to the work of the Task Force on Indicators of Gender Equality, which aims to improve monitoring of gender equality in the UNECE region by consolidating and systematizing the existing proliferation of gender-relevant statistical indicators and by proposing ways for sustainable data collection on selected indicators (subject to approval by the CES Bureau in November 2010).
♦ Disseminate and promote the use of the methodological guidelines on measuring violence against women. Analyze the experience with testing and using the survey module on violence against women and organize a workshop on this topic in spring 2011.
♦ Prepare an overview of gender aspects relevant for environment statistics.
♦ Maintain the gender statistics website.
♦ Contribute to the Inter-Agency Working Group on Gender Statistics.
♦ Start preparations for the Work Session on Gender Statistics scheduled for April 2012.

Organizations and groups involved

CES Steering Group on Gender Statistics
CES Task Force on Gender-based Violence
ILO
UNDP Regional Office in Bratislava
UNECLAC
United Nations Population Fund
World Bank
World Bank Institute
WHO
Inter-Agency Working Group on Gender Statistics

6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics

Activity 6.4: Health statistics

Description and objectives

Work towards the improvement of the comparability of health status statistics in the UNECE region, in cooperation with the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, the World Health Organization and Eurostat.

Activities and output

♦ Finalize the survey module on measuring health status (Budapest Initiative Mark 2), in coordination with the existing groups, such as the Washington Group and the Eurostat Group on Health Interview Survey (HIS).
♦ Prepare a report on the outcome of the work of the Budapest Initiative.
♦ Provide secretariat support to the Steering Group on Health Statistics.

Organizations and groups involved

CES Steering Group on health statistics
WHO
Washington Group on Disability Statistics
Eurostat Group on Health Interview Survey

6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics

Activity 6.5: Crime and justice statistics

Description and objectives

Work towards the development of comparable crime and justice statistics; contribute to the development of manuals, classifications and principles to improve consistency and comparability of crime statistics.

Activities and output

♦ Participate in and provide secretariat support to the UNECE/UNODC Task Force on Crime Classification.
♦ Develop a case study of selected offences in terms of terminology, concepts, definitions, classifications, etc. adopted in different countries.
♦ Develop a set of principles for statistical use of international crime classification systems.
♦ Organize a Joint UNECE/UNODC Meeting on Crime Statistics, tentatively scheduled for November 2011.

Organizations and groups involved

CES Task Force on crime classification
UNODC
Eurostat
European Union – DG Justice

6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics

Activity 6.6: Measurement of quality of employment

Description and objectives

Support international work on the statistical measurement of quality of employment in the UNECE region. Promote the application of the approach and set of indicators from the *Report on potential indicators for measurement of the quality of employment* endorsed by the CES, and identify good practices on the measurement of various aspects related to labour conditions.

Activities and output

♦ Promote the implementation of the set of indicators from the *Report on potential indicators for measurement of the quality of employment* in the region on a test basis.
♦ Seek feedback from countries to identify potential needs for further improvements of the statistical indicators for measuring the quality aspects of employment.
♦ Identify country priorities and practices in the area of measurement of quality of employment in the South-East European and EECCA regions.
♦ Organise and conduct a Seminar on measuring quality of employment in October 2011, in cooperation with ILO and Eurostat.
♦ Provide secretariat support to the work of the Organising Committee on measuring quality of employment

Organizations and groups involved

Organising Committee for the Seminar: UNECE, ILO, Eurostat, Canada
ILO
Eurostat

6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics

Activity 6.7: Indicators related to the goals contained in the Millennium Declaration

Description and objectives

Contribute to the monitoring of progress towards achievement of the goals specified in the Millennium Declaration in countries of East and South-East Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. Contribute to the Annual Secretary General's Report on the progress towards achievement of the Goals worldwide.

Activities and output

♦ Enhance capacity of countries of Eastern and South-eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia to monitor progress towards achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by improving coverage and comparability of relevant statistics.
♦ Provide a regional perspective to UN activities on global monitoring of MDGs, both in substantive and methodological terms.
♦ Contribute to the UNECE/UNICEF/UNDP/UNFPA Joint Regional MDG Monitoring Initiative to develop a common approach to support countries in monitoring the achievement of MDGs in countries of East and South-East Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia.
♦ Recommend additional relevant indicators and disaggregations for monitoring progress on development in countries of Eastern and South-eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia.
♦ Improve communication between NSOs and other stakeholders involved in monitoring progress towards MDGs.
♦ Contribute to the Inter-Agency Expert Group on MDG indicators.
♦ Organise a regional workshop on MDG indicators in spring and a regional meeting on MDG indicators in autumn as part of the UN Development account project (see activity 9.2).

Organizations and groups involved

UNDP
UNICEF
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
UNSD
Inter-Agency Expert Group Meeting on MDG indicators.

6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics

Activity 6.8: Statistics on income, living conditions and poverty

Description and objectives

Update the *Canberra Group Handbook on Household Income Statistics* taking into account recent country experiences and advancements in income measurement in specific areas such as imputed rent, in-kind benefits, capital gains and losses, and own consumption.

Activities and output

♦ Provide secretariat support to the work of the CES Task Force to update the *Canberra Group Handbook on Household Income Statistics;*
♦ Contribute in substance to the review of the *Canberra Group Handbook*;
♦ Undertake consultation with the Bureau and the CES member countries and prepare for adoption by the CES plenary in 2011
♦ Publication and distribution of the revised *Canberra Group Handbook*.

Organizations and groups involved

CES Task Force to update the *Canberra Group Handbook on Household Income Statistics*.

7. Methodological work in environment and sustainable development statistics and related areas

Summary description of the cluster

Objective:
Promote development of statistics in new areas like sustainable development and climate change. Further strengthen environmental data collection, enhance the production of environmental indicators, and promote comparability of environmental statistics in the countries of South-East Europe and EECCA.

Actions:
1) work towards the development of recommendations and compilations of best practices to help countries in implementing internationally recommended standards, classifications and practices;
2) carry out research and surveys of country practices to analyse the status of implementation of standards and guidelines, and to develop recommendations;
3) provide a forum for exchange of experience, identification of best practices and developing common solutions;
4) provide technical assistance and advice to EECCA countries to promote the implementation of standards and best practices.

7. Methodological work in environment and sustainable development statistics and related areas

Activity 7.1: Sustainable development statistics

Description and objectives

Develop a broad conceptual framework for measuring sustainable development responding to the demand for greater harmonisation and comparability in this area. Ensure that the work on measuring sustainable development remains within the framework of official statistics and is coordinated with other international organisations.

Activities and output

♦ Continue further the work on measuring sustainable development with focus on human and social capital. Extend the capital approach to a broader conceptual framework of sustainability to include quality of life and international aspects of sustainable development.
♦ Provide secretariat support to the Joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Task Force on Measuring Sustainable Development and facilitate the preparation of the final report of the Task Force.
♦ Contribute to the work of the EU Sponsorship Group on Measuring Progress, Well-being and Sustainable Development, in particular on methodological work related to sustainable development and environmental sustainability.

Organizations and groups involved

CES Task Force on measuring sustainable development
UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEA)
Eurostat
EU Sponsorship Group on Measuring Progress: Task Force on environmental sustainability (TF2) and Task Force on horizontal issues (TF4)
OECD

7. Methodological work in environment and sustainable development statistics and related areas

Activity 7.2: Environmental indicators
(Joint activity with the UNECE Environment, Housing and Land Management Division)

Description and objectives

Work on methodological issues of environmental indicators in cooperation with the UNECE Environment, Housing and Land Management Division and UNSD, New York to further strengthen environmental data collection, enhance the production of pan-European environmental indicators, and promote comparability of environmental statistics in EECCA and SEE countries.

Activities and output

♦ Provide practical recommendations on the use of statistical classifications, data collection methods and procedures to strengthen the capacity of national statistical offices of the EECCA and SEE countries to produce environmental indicators.
♦ Strengthen the capacity of national statistical offices to regularly disseminate and communicate environmental statistics.
♦ Reinforce the cooperation between environmental experts and statisticians on methodological issues of environmental indicators.
♦ Continue evaluating the *Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia* from the point of view of official statistics – review indicators that have not yet been examined by the Task Force on Environmental Indicators (subject to approval of the Committee on Environmental Policy and the CES Bureau).
♦ Provide secretariat support to the UNECE Intersectoral Task Force on Environmental Indicators.
♦ Organise the meetings of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators jointly with the UNECE Environment, Housing and Land Management Division in April 2011 and September 2011 (see also activity 9.3).
♦ Initiate work on energy statistics related to environment in cooperation with the International Energy Agency (IEA)

Organizations and groups involved

UNECE Intersectoral Task Force on environmental indicators
UNSD
European Environment Agency
Eurostat
FAO
International Energy Agency
OECD
WHO
Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (WGEMA)

7. Methodological work in environment and sustainable development statistics and related areas

Activity 7.3: Statistics related to climate change

Description and objectives

Promote the development of official statistics related to climate change in the region taking into account the activities of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and other institutions dealing with related data.

Activities and output

♦ Carry out a survey on involvement of national statistical offices in climate change related work and in compiling the greenhouse gas inventories, as requested by the CES Bureau. Analyse the results of the survey and identify the common concerns of countries in this area to be dealt with at international level. Make proposals how to address the concerns of countries.
♦ Contribute to general UN climate change related initiatives (e.g. providing input on requests related to the UNFCCC negotiation and implementation process, Thematic group of climate change under the Regional Coordination Mechanism, Rio+20 initiative, etc.).
♦ Cooperate with other UNECE Divisions on climate change related work.

Organizations and groups involved

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCC)
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
UNSD
Eurostat
OECD

8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics

Objective:
Development and implementation of internationally recommended standards and practices to improve the methods and tools for processing and dissemination of data in statistical organizations, particularly in the areas of management of statistical information systems, data editing, confidentiality protection, metadata, and statistical dissemination. Development of good practices in human resources management in statistical organizations.

Actions:
1) prepare manuals, guidelines, recommendations and compilations of best practices to help countries in implementing internationally recommended standards, classifications and practices;
2) carry out research and surveys of country practices to analyse the status of implementation of standards and guidelines, and to develop recommendations;
3) provide a forum and tools for exchange of experience, identification of best practices and developing common solutions to harmonize the methods and concepts in statistical data processing and dissemination, and human resources management.

8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics

Activity 8.1: Strategic Developments in Business Architecture in Statistics

Description and objectives

Contribute to the work of the High Level Group for Strategic Developments in Business Architecture in Statistics (HLG-BAS) to oversee and guide discussions on developments in the business architecture of the statistical production process, including methodological and information technology aspects. The HLG-BAS oversees the work of other UNECE groups like the SAB, METIS and MSIS and also the work of similar Eurostat and OECD groups. It reports to the CES Bureau on the progress and direction of the work of these groups.

Activities and output

- Provide secretariat support to the HLG-BAS.
- Assist in preparing the annual report of the HLG-BAS to the CES Bureau;
- Record the decisions of the HLG-BAS and ensure these are effectively communicated
- Collaborate with other bodies involved in international work on statistical business architectures for example the European Statistics Directors of Methodology and the expert group on Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange.

Organizations and groups involved

CES High-level Group for Strategic Developments in Business Architecture in Statistics
Eurostat
OECD

8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics

Activity 8.2: Management of statistical information systems

Description and objectives

Coordinate the work on the Management of Statistical Information Systems (MSIS) and the Sharing Advisory Board (SAB) to: (i) provide a forum for exchange of experiences; (ii) make recommendations on the coordination of the activities of different international organizations in this area; (iii) collect, discuss and make available good practices; (iv) facilitate and encourage implementation of standards and recommendations in the field of statistical data processing in the UNECE region.

Activities and output

♦ Support the improvement of statistical information systems in national and international statistical organizations.
♦ Improve harmonisation of data models, concepts, etc. in the field of statistical information processing.
♦ Provide a platform for knowledge sharing among statistical organisations in this area.
♦ Provide technological and organizational frameworks to facilitate sharing of statistical software, modules and solutions.
• Prepare recommendations for the governance and practice of sharing statistical software.
♦ Standardize electronic data interchange, in particular, develop and promote the Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX) content oriented guidelines and other SDMX standards in cooperation with other international organizations.
♦ Organise the Meeting on Management of Statistical Information Systems (MSIS May 2011).

Organizations and groups involved

CES Steering Group/Organising Committee on Management of Statistical Information Systems
CES Sharing Advisory Board
CES High-level Group for Strategic Developments in Business Architecture in Statistics
Eurostat
OECD
SDMX Consortium

8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics

Activity 8.3: Statistical data editing

Description and objectives

Enhance the harmonization of methods and concepts, and facilitate the exchange of experience and practices in issues related to statistical data editing.

Activities and output

♦ Contribute to the improvement of the quality of statistical data produced by official statistical organisations in the region.
- Strengthen the cooperation among experts on issues related to data editing and imputation, exchange of experience, harmonization of methods and concepts and development of new methods and techniques.
♦ Develop methodological guides on data quality control, data editing and imputation.
♦ Update and expand the Internet Knowledge Base (K-base) on statistical data editing.
♦ Develop proposals for future concrete outputs of the work sessions on statistical data editing.
♦ Organise a Work Session on Statistical Data Editing (May 2011).

8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics

Activity 8.4: Statistical confidentiality and access to microdata

Description and objectives

Enhance international cooperation, harmonization of methods and exchange of experience in the area of statistical confidentiality. The work covers managerial, statistical and organizational issues related to statistical confidentiality protection and disclosure control for both microdata and tabular data. Particular attention is paid to issues related to use of administrative registers and records for statistical purposes, for example linking and matching of records, legal and technical aspects, use of combined sources, etc.

Activities and output

♦ Identify leading practices in national and international statistical organizations in statistical confidentiality protection and disclosure control.
♦ Implement and further explain applicable standards and recommendations.
♦ As a follow-up to the decision of the 2009 plenary session of the CES, collect information on the implementation of the CES Principles and guidelines on confidentiality and data integration, in preparation for the review of these principles by the CES in June 2011.
♦ Organise a Work Session on Statistical Data Confidentiality in autumn 2011

Organizations and groups involved

Eurostat

8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics

Activity 8.5: Statistical metadata

Description and objectives

Facilitate harmonisation of data models and structures for statistical metadata. Provide a forum for discussing metadata issues relevant to statistical offices. Complement other international initiatives dealing with data collection needs of international statistical organizations.

Activities and output

♦ Advocate for statistical metadata issues and the role of metadata in the management of statistical processes.
♦ Further develop and improve the Common Metadata Framework (CMF) as a guide for statistical organisations to existing metadata standards, in cooperation with the METIS Steering Group.
♦ Add more case studies on the implementation of metadata systems in statistical organizations (Part D "Implementation").
♦ Provide secretariat support to the CES Steering Group on Statistical Metadata
♦ Organise a Workshop on Statistical Metadata in autumn 2011.
♦ Cooperate actively with other organizations on the standardisation of electronic data interchange, including the SDMX content oriented guidelines and other SDMX standards.
♦ Lead, together with UN Statistical Division, international work to develop a global inventory of statistical standards.

Organizations and groups involved

CES Steering Group on statistical metadata
Eurostat
OECD
SDMX Secretariat.

8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics

Activity 8.6: Dissemination of statistical information

Description and objectives

Promote good practices in the dissemination and communication of statistical information.

Activities and output

♦ Publish Part 3 of the *Making Data Meaningful* series, "A guide to communicating with the media".
♦ Prepare Part 4 of the *Making Data Meaningful* series, concerning statistical literacy.
♦ Exchange information and experiences through regular meetings of the Work Session on Statistical Dissemination and Communication.
♦ Provide secretariat support to the Steering Group on statistical dissemination and communication.
♦ Organise a Work Session on statistical dissemination and communication in spring 2011.

Organizations and groups involved

CES Steering Group on statistical dissemination and communication

8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics

Activity 8.7: Secondary and mixed data sources

Description and objectives

Facilitate exchange of knowledge and experience in the use of secondary and mixed data sources for the production of official statistics.

Activities and output

- Further develop the ASSIST Knowledge Base on the use of administrative and secondary sources.
- Develop a network and other resources as requested by the CES Bureau.

Organizations and groups involved

To be determined

8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics

Activity 8.8: Human resources development in statistical offices

Description and objectives

Facilitate exchange of experience and development of good practices in the area of human resources management and training (HRMT) in statistical offices.

Activities and output

- Provide secretariat support to the Organising Committee on human resources management and training in statistical offices.
- Follow-up on the outcome and recommendations of the workshop on HRMT in Geneva in September 2010 (subject to the approval of the Bureau).

Organizations and groups involved

CES Organising Committee on human resources management and training in statistical offices
Eurostat

9. Technical assistance to UNECE member countries

Objective

The objective is to ensure the production and dissemination of official statistics according to international standards and guidelines, including the advocacy for sound legal and institutional framework for national statistical systems in the South-East European and EECCA countries.

The recent economic and financial crises and its impact on government finance affected severely financial and human resources dedicated to statistics both at national and international level. In that context, more active fundraising and better coordination with other donor organisations will be needed to meet the demand for technical assistance, particularly for countries of South-East Europe (SEE), and Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA).

Actions

Design and implement technical assistance programmes and activities to improve the statistical capacity of SEE and EECCA countries in various areas, such as national accounts, short-term economic statistics, MDG indicators, population and housing censuses, gender statistics, migration statistics, measuring violence against women, environment and sustainable development statistics, Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, organization of statistical systems, communication and dissemination of statistics, etc.

9. Technical assistance to UNECE member countries

Activity 9.1: Global assessments of national statistical systems

Description and objectives

♦ The purpose of a global assessment of the national statistical system (GA) is to provide a clear picture of the state of development of official statistics in the country. It helps the national authorities to better programme the long-term development of statistics, and also international donors to have a deep knowledge of their institutional and administrative work frame for the programming of statistical cooperation. More specifically, the objectives of a global assessment are:

  ▪ To assess the administrative capacity of the country in the field of statistics

  ▪ To assess the technical aspects of the statistical system in the country

  ▪ To assess the compliance of national statistics with international standards

GAs in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia will be performed jointly by the UNECE, Eurostat and EFTA. GAs aim at adding transparency and accountability to the implementation process of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and the European Statistics Code of Practice.

Activities and output

Most of the countries in the region have requested a GA. Kazakhstan, Armenia and Azerbaijan have recently undergone a global assessment of their national statistical systems. Statistical systems of Kyrgyzstan and Ukraine could be assessed in 2011.

Organizations and groups involved

Eurostat
European Free Trade Association (EFTA)

9. Technical assistance to UNECE member countries

Activity 9.2: UN Development Account capacity building projects in SEE and EECCA countries

Description and objectives

Assess and improve the statistical capacity in countries of South-East Europe (SEE) and Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) by enhancing their ability to meet the needs for major national and international cross-cutting policies. Increase the production and dissemination of gender relevant statistical information, sustainable development indicators as well as indicators for the monitoring of the achievements towards the Millennium Declaration. All projects mentioned under activity 9.2 are financed through successive tranches of the UN Development Account.

Activities and output

♦ Technical assistance on developing **Millennium Development Goals indicators**, in support of statistical capacity building (see activity 3.2 and 6.7)

  MDGs technical assistance activities are financed through:

  ▪ UN Development Account Project of the 6th tranche (2009-2011), *Supporting MDG-based development strategies through integrated regional action*

  ▪ UN Development Account Project of the 7th tranche (2010-2012), *Strengthening national statistical and inter-institutional capacities for monitoring the MDGs through interregional cooperation and knowledge-sharing*.

  ▪ UN Development Account Project of the 7th tranche (2010-2012) *Enhancing key statistics and indicators to monitor progress towards the MDGs and other internationally agreed development goals*.

  ▪ ECE Statistical division submitted a project in the framework of the 8th tranche of the UN Development Account (2012-2013). The objective of the project is to strengthen the capacity of countries with economies in transition for sustainable measurement of progress towards the MDGs, with emphasis on poverty and vulnerable population groups.

♦ Technical assistance on developing measures for **environmental sustainability**, in support of statistical capacity in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. Financed through the UN Development Account Project of the 7th tranche (2010-2012) *Strengthening statistical capacity of countries with economies in transition to assess progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goal on Environmental Sustainability and provide data on environmental vulnerabilities.*

♦ Technical assistance on developing **migration statistics**, in support of statistical capacity building in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation and Tajikistan. Other countries that may also be involved include: Armenia, Georgia, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan (see activity 6.2).

Technical assistance on migration statistics are financed through the UN Development Account project of the 6th tranche (2009-2011), *Strengthening national capacities to deal with international migration.*

♦ Technical assistance on **engendering statistical information and providing statistical information on violence against women** in support of statistical capacity building in selected countries in the EECCA and SEE countries.

The project is financed through the UN Development Account Project of the 6th tranche (2009-2011), *Enhancing capacities to eradicate violence against women through networking of local knowledge communities.*

9. Technical assistance to UNECE member countries

Activity 9.3: UNECE statistical capacity building projects in SEE and EECCA countries

Description and objectives

The main priority is to strengthen the statistical capacity of EECCA and SEE countries to meet international standards and guidelines in areas such as national accounts, short-term economic statistics, demographic and social statistics, and gender statistics.

Activities and output

♦ In close cooperation with partner organisations, provide technical assistance to the SEE and EECCA countries in the implementation of **2008 SNA**, including the organisation of a seminar on 2008 SNA and related economic statistics for EECCA countries (see activity 5.1)

♦ Provide methodological and technical assistance on **price statistics** to SEE and EECCA countries to support implementation of internationally recommended practices (see activity 5.3).

♦ Support SEE and EECCA countries in the development and implementation of **statistical business registers** following international standards and best practices (see activity 5.4)

♦ Technical assistance on **short-term economic statistics and seasonal adjustment** for SEE and EECCA countries (see activity 5.5). This activity is financed by the WB project (2010-2011) *New Challenges in Economic Statistics in Central Asia and Eastern European countries*.

♦ Provide training and technical assistance to EECCA and SEE countries in the field of **population and housing censuses**, based on their expressed needs and in compliance with the CES Census Recommendations (see activity 6.1).

In the framework of population and housing census capacity building activities, UNFPA is funding a project (2010-2011) on s*upporting effective use of information and communication technology in population census operations.*

♦ Technical assistance in support of the preparations for the first **Population and Housing Census** in **Bosnia-Herzegovina** and in the internationally administered territory of **Kosovo**, planned to take place in 2011, in cooperation with UNFPA, Eurostat and other involved international organizations. This includes participation in the International Monitoring and Observation missions in Kosovo and in Bosnia and Herzegovina, aimed at ensuring that the population and housing censuses are planned and conducted in accordance with the internationally agreed standards (in particular the CES Census Recommendations and the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics) and that the enumeration is fair and impartial(see activity 6.1).

♦ Support for selected SEE and EECCA countries to build up **dissemination databases**, making use of the expertise and know-how accumulated in UNECE on dissemination systems of aggregated statistical information (see activity 6.1).

♦ Identify country priorities and practices in the area of **measurement of quality of employment** in the South-East European and EECCA regions (see activity 6.6).

9. Technical assistance to UNECE member countries

Activity 9.4: Short-term advisory missions and training

Description and objectives

Provide specific advisory services in statistics to South-East European (SEE) and Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) countries in areas where the Statistical Division of UNECE has a recognised expertise.

Activities and output

♦ Provide short-term assistance to UNECE countries, upon request by national authorities or international organizations, with special emphasis on SEE and EECCA countries. Technical assistance is provided in a wide range of areas as required, such as: general organization of the national statistical system, national strategy for the development of statistics, statistical legislation, dissemination and marketing of statistical information, population census, migration, gender statistics, short-term economic indicators, national accounts, MDGs, etc.

♦ Participate as facilitators, lecturers and discussants in seminars, training workshops, conferences and meetings on topics mentioned above.

♦ Upon request, short term mission to countries in the region (with or without partner organizations) could be organized in order to assess the relevance of applications for technical assistance projects.

♦ Active participation in other international for a discussing and coordinating technical assistance in the UNECE region

9. Technical assistance to UNECE member countries

Activity 9.5: Technical cooperation in Central Asia

Description and objectives

Collect and share information on technical cooperation activities in statistics in Central Asian countries. Contribute to the Partner Reporting System on Statistical Development (PRESS), maintained by PARIS21 (Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century). Promote the statistical cooperation between the countries of Central Asia, Azerbaijan and Afghanistan (under the UN Special Programme for Economies of Central Asia (SPECA)).

Activities and output

♦ Launching of a technical assistance coordination group gathering SPECA countries and main donor organisations in the region. The objective of this group, under the UNECE umbrella, is to better coordinate among donors and beneficiaries technical cooperation programmes and activities in the region. Organize the Annual SPECA Project Working Group Meeting on Statistics.
♦ Provide timely and comprehensive information on all UNECE technical cooperation projects in statistics as a contribution to the global Report on donor activities in the field of statistics produced annually by PARIS21 (PRESS).

Organizations and groups involved

CIS-STAT
Eurostat
PARIS21
Progressively other major donor organisations and countries

Part II. Activities undertaken by other UNECE Divisions

10. Subprogramme on Environment, Housing and Land Management

10. Subprogramme on Housing, Land Management and Population - Population Unit

Activity 10.1: Generations and Gender Programme (GGP)

Description and objectives

The Generations and Gender Programme (GGP) is a system of national Generations and Gender Surveys (GGS) and contextual databases, which aims at improving the knowledge base for population related policy-making in UNECE countries. The Programme is developed and maintained by the GGP Consortium of research and statistical organizations. Data collection is carried out by member States whereas the data harmonisation and dissemination by the institutions of the Consortium. Coordination of the Programme at the UNECE is subject to availability of extra-budgetary funds, which are partially secured for 2011.

Activities and output

♦ Improve understanding of demographic and social development and of the factors that influence these developments, with a particular attention towards relationships between children and parents (generations) and relationships between partners (gender).
♦ Increase availability of harmonised micro-data of Generations and Gender Surveys from more countries
♦ Add new countries in the GGP contextual databases.

Organizations and groups involved

Generations and Gender Programme Consortium

10. Subprogramme on Housing, Land Management and Population - Population Unit

Activity 10.2: Statistical support to monitoring ageing-related policies

Description and objectives

Monitoring policies related to population ageing is part of the follow-up to the implementation of the *Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing* (MIPAA) in the UNECE region. The statistical aspect of this work includes developing and maintaining a database of policy-relevant indicators in the domains of demography, income, wealth, labour market, social protection and financial sustainability. Collection and processing the data on already developed indicators are under way. This work is carried out by the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research based in Vienna. The UNECE secretariat assists in data collection and dissemination involving members of the Working Group on Ageing and focal points in national statistical offices.

Activities and output

♦ Assist UNECE member States in monitoring developments related to population ageing in the context of the UNECE Regional Implementation Strategy of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing.
♦ Add more countries in the database of policy-relevant indicators and policy actions.
♦ Update a graphical representation of data in country profiles published on the web.
♦ Present outputs at the meeting of the UNECE Working Group on Ageing in 2011, pending to renewal of the mandate of the Working Group beyond 2010.

Organizations and groups involved

European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna

11. Forestry and Timber Subprogramme

11. Forestry and Timber Subprogramme

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).
♦ Data collection/data management:
    - Forest Products Statistics, including prices of forest products;
    - Joint Wood Energy Enquiry.
♦ 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
IEA
Eurostat
International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO)
Forest Europe (formerly Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe)

11. Forestry and Timber Subprogramme

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
♦ Forest Products Annual Market Review, published as a Study Paper;
♦ Forest Sector Country profiles, published as Discussion Papers;
♦ Forest Sector Outlook Study.
♦ Joint Wood Energy Enquiry
♦ State of Europe's Forests, 2011

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 and on forest sector outlook studies.
♦ Collaborate with Forest Europe secretariat on analysis of results of quantitative and qualitative indicators. 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 Forest Resource Assessment (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, Forest Europe).
♦ Organisation of the meetings of the Teams of Specialists.

Organizations and groups involved

Commission for Environmental Cooperation
European Environment Agency
EFI
Alterra
Hamburg University
Eurostat
FAO
International Energy Agency
ITTO
JRC
OECD
Forest Europe (formerly Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe)

11. Forestry and Timber Subprogramme

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

♦ Possibly some wood energy workshops

Organizations and groups involved

European Environment Agency
FAO
Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE)

12. Transport Subprogramme

12. Transport Subprogramme

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.

12. Transport Subprogramme

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

Annexes

Annex I: List of meetings planned for 2011

The updated list of meetings is available on http://www.unece.org/stats/

Activity 1.2	Second Meeting of the 2010/2011 Bureau of the CES **(New York)**	23 February 2011
Activity 1.2	59th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians **(Geneva)**	14-17 June 2011
Activity 1.2	First Meeting of the 2011/2012 Bureau of the CES **(Geneva)**	October/November 2011
Activity 5.1	Meeting on Government Finance Statistics and National Accounts **(Geneva)**	9-13 May 2011
Activity 5.1	Meeting on the Implementation of the 2008 System of National Accounts **(Geneva)**	28-30 September 2011
Activity 5.3	Workshop on Consumer Price Indices **(Istanbul, Turkey)**	September 2011 (dates to be confirmed)
Activity 5.4	Meeting of Group of Experts on Business Registers **(Paris)**	September 2011 (dates to be confirmed)
Activity 5.5	Workshop on Seasonal Adjustment **(Baku, Azerbaijan)**	April 2011 (dates to be confirmed)
Activity 6.2	Task Force on Improving Migration and Migrant Data using Household Surveys and Other Sources **(Geneva)**	29-31 March 2011
Activity 6.3	Workshop on Violence against Women **(Geneva)**	9-11 February 2011
Activity 6.5	Joint UNECE/UNODC Work Session on Crime Statistics **(Geneva)**	23-25 November 2011
Activity 6.6	Meeting of Group of Experts on Measuring Quality of Employment **(Geneva)**	31 October-2 November 2011
Activity 6.7	Inter-Regional Meeting on MDG Indicators	26-28 October 2011
Activity 6.7	Regional workshop on MDG indicators	(dates to be confirmed)
Activity 7.1	Joint UNECE/OECD/Eurostat Task Force for Measuring Sustainable Development **(Geneva)**	(dates to be confirmed)
Activity 7.2	Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators **(Geneva)**	4-5 April 2011
Activity 7.2	Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators **(Geneva)**	5-6 September 2011
Activity 8.1	Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems **(Luxembourg)**	23-25 May 2011
Activity 8.3	Work Session on Statistical Data Editing **(Slovenia)**	9-11 May 2011
Activity 8.4	Work Session on Statistical Data Confidentiality **(Tarragona, Spain)**	2-4 November 2011
Activity 8.5	Workshop on Statistical Metadata **(Geneva)**	5-7 October 2011
Activity 8.6	Work Session on Statistical Communication **(to be determined)**	29 June-1 July 2011 (to be confirmed)

Annex II: Outputs planned in 2011
(prepared by the UNECE Statistical Division)

Manuals, guidelines, recommendations, compilations of best practices (printed and electronic publications)

Activity 1.2	Proceedings of the CES seminar on spatial statistics
Activity 5.2	Impact of globalisation on national accounts: practical guidance
Activity 5.5	Guidelines on seasonal adjustment for EECCA countries
Activity 6.2	Toolkit for International Migration Statistics: Practical guide for countries in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asian
Activity 6.3	Methodological guidelines on the measurement of violence against women;
Activity 6.4	Survey module on measuring health status (Budapest Initiative Mark 2)
Activity 6.5	Set of principles for statistical use of international crime classification systems
Activity 6.6	Framework on measurement of quality of employment
Activity 6.8	Canberra Group handbook on household income statistics
Activity 7.1	Further development of the conceptual framework for measuring sustainable development
Activity 8.2	Recommendations for the governance and practice of sharing statistical software
Activity 8.6	Making data meaningful 3

Secretariat papers (reports, analysis of survey results, etc.)

Activity 1.2	Report of the CES 59th plenary session
Activity 1.2	Reports of CES Bureau meetings (3)
Activity 1.2	UNECE Statistical Programme 2012
Activity 1.2	Reports and notes on coordination of international statistical activities (in-depth reviews of selected statistical areas, progress reports, implementation of UNECE Statistical Programme, etc.)
Activity 1.2	Reports of the expert meetings held under the UNECE Statistical Programme 2011
Activity 5.4	Report on the results of the UNECE survey on business registers and a supporting dataset
Activity 6.2	Report on the measurement of "hard-to-count" migrant populations;
Activity 6.2	Report on the impact of different residency rules on migration statistics;
Activity 6.3	Report on gender aspects relevant for environment statistics
Activity 6.3	Report on the testing and use of the survey module on measuring violence against women
Activity 6.7	Report on the development of the regional database of development indicators for countries of Eastern and South-eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
Activity 7.3	Report on the results of the survey on the involvement of national statistical offices in climate change related work and in compiling the greenhouse gas inventories

Databases

	UNECE Statistical database, providing
Activity 2.1	- Macroeconomic data (national accounts main aggregates, industrial production, labour force, population, wages, price indices, purchasing power parities, exchange rates, interest rates, balance of payments, external debt);
Activity 3.1	- Social and demographic data with gender breakdown (population, fertility, families and households, work and the economy, education, public life and decision making, health and mortality, crime and violence, science and ICT, and life balance);
Activity 3.2	- Regional MDG data;
Activity 4.1	Infrastructure for Internet dissemination of UNECE statistical data (macroeconomic, social and demographic, MDG, transport and forestry statistics).

Websites

Activity 1.1	Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA): 2011 issue
Activity 4.1	Statistical database website
Activity 4.1	Data Locator
Activity 4.2	UNECE Statistical Division's website
Activity 4.2	Library of training materials on statistics
Activity 6.3	Gender statistics website
Activity 8.2	Management of Statistical Information Systems (MSIS) wiki
Activity 8.3	Internet Knowledge Base (K-base) on statistical data editing
Activity 8.5	METIS wiki, including the Common Metadata Framework
Activity 8.7	ASSIST – Knowledge base for administrative and secondary sources in statistics

Annex III: Expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement as defined in the UN programme budget plan for 2010-2011

Overall objective of the work of the UNECE subprogramme on statistics:

To improve the reliability of national official statistics and their comparability at the international level, and to ensure the coordination of international statistical activities undertaken in the region.

Expected Accomplishment 1 (EA1):

Streamlined activity patterns of statistical work between international organizations through elimination of overlaps and gaps.

Indicators of achievement for EA1:

The number of international organizations regularly reporting their activities in the Database on International Statistical Activities (DISA, formerly the "Integrated Presentation").

> *Performance measures*:
> 2004-2005: 26 organizations (as of December 2005)
> 2006-2007: 27 organizations (as of December 2007)
> 2008-2009: 27 organizations (as of December 2009)
> Target 2010-2011: 26 organizations (target as set in October 2007)

Expected Accomplishment 2 (EA2):

Increased timeliness, comparability, completeness and reliability of macroeconomic, social and demographic statistics, in particular about the less advanced countries of the region.

Indicators of achievement for EA2:

(i) Increased percentage of available data of good quality in the overview tables (percentage of filled data cells to the total number of data cells).

> *Performance measures*:
> 2004-2005: not available
> 2006-2007: 53 per cent (December 2007)
> 2008-2009: 68 per cent (December 2009)
> Target 2010-2011: 70 per cent (target as set in October 2007)

(ii) increased percentage of users that express, through user surveys, satisfaction with the quality, coverage and timeliness of data contained in the ECE database.

> *Performance measures*:
> 2004-2005: 70 per cent of satisfied users (as of December 2005)
> 2006-2007: 81 per cent of satisfied users (as of December 2007)
> 2008-2009: 84 per cent of satisfied users (as of December 2009)
> Target 2010-2011: 80 per cent (revised down from 87% in April 2010)

Expected accomplishment 3 (EA3):

Enhanced set of internationally recommended standards and practices to ensure comparable statistics

Indicators of achievement for EA3:

(i) Increased number of new and revised international standards and recommendations to which the UNECE has contributed in substance.

> *Performance measures*:
> 2004-2005: 1 standard/recommendation (as of December 2005)
> 2006-2007: 4 standard/recommendation (as of December 2007)
> 2008-2009: 6 standards/recommendations (as of December 2009)
> Target 2010-2011: 6 standards/recommendations (revised up from 4 in April 2010)

(ii) The number of statistical areas (according to the DISA classification) in which the UNECE undertakes substantive methodological work.

> *Performance measures*:
> 2004-2005: 5 statistical areas (as of December 2005)
> 2006-2007: 15 statistical areas (as of December 2007)
> 2008-2009: 28 statistical areas (as of December 2009)
> Target 2010-2011: 27 statistical areas (revised up from 23 in April 2010)

Expected Accomplishment 4 (EA4):

Progress in implementation of international standards and good practices by statistical systems, particularly in less developed countries of the region.

Indicators of achievement of EA4:

(i) Increased number of countries ensuring better compliance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics through revision of their national statistical legislation.

> *Performance measures*:
> 2004-2005: 3 countries (as of December 2005)
> 2006-2007: 6 countries (as of December 2007)
> 2008-2009: 4 countries (as of December 2009)
> Target 2010-2011: 3 countries (revised down from 4 in April 2010)

(ii) Increased number of UNECE recommendations implemented at the country level to improve national institutional frameworks for official statistics.

> *Performance measures*:
> 2004-2005: 45 recommendations (as of December 2005)
> 2006-2007: 45 recommendations (as of December 2007)
> 2008-2009: 45 recommendations (as of December 2009)
> Target 2010-2011: 30 recommendations (target as set in October 2007)