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STATISTICAL COMMISSION and ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

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(Paris, 8-10 June 2004)

**STATISTICAL PROGRAMME OF THE
UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
FOR 2004**

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

STATISTICAL PROGRAMME OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE FOR 2004

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INTRODUCTION

1.   The Conference of European Statisticians (CES) decided at its 2003 plenary session that an Annual Statistical Programme of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe be regularly compiled, starting from January 2004, and presented to the CES Bureau.

2.   The main purpose of the ECE Statistical Programme is to (i) give an overview of all statistical activities carried out by the various Divisions and Units of the UNECE; (ii) help prioritise the activities undertaken by the ECE Statistical Division; (iii) allow for more transparency and focus on the work; and (iv) give an explicit mandate for the various activities of the Statistical Division. Furthermore, the compilation of the Statistical Programme will facilitate the ECE Statistical Division in fulfilling its mandate of coordination of the statistical activities of the ECE and provision of guidance to other Principal Subsidiary Bodies on statistically related activities, as requested by the Economic Commission for Europe back in 1987 and re-affirmed in 1990 and 1997. The Annual ECE Statistical Programme will also contribute to avoid duplication and excessive burden on countries.

3.   The Statistical Programme is prepared by the ECE Statistical Division. It is based on information provided by the various ECE Divisions and information that was collected for the 2003 edition of the Integrated Presentation of International Statistical Work Programmes (IP). The programme is compiled for a calendar year, as opposed to the Integrated Presentation, which has been compiled for a two-year period and includes information not only on ECE but also on 25 other International Organizations.

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

I.   Statistical activities undertaken by the ECE Statistical Division: 40 statistical activities are identified, grouped in four categories:
- Coordination of international statistical work in the ECE region (including coordination of statistical activities within ECE);
- Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic, social and demographic statistics;
- Methodological work in various statistical areas;
- Technical assistance to ECE member countries.

II.   Statistical activities undertaken by other ECE Divisions, including 11 activities.

5.   All statistical activities are presented in the following way:
- Summary description
- Ultimate output [which could go beyond 2004]
- Detailed description
- Resource implications
- Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

6.   The resource implications are included only for the activities of the Statistical Division. Three categories for defining the resources in 2004 are used: minimal (less than 6 person-months); moderate (between 6 person-months and 2 person-years); or substantial (two person-years or more). The table below shows the summary distribution of the 40 statistical activities of the Statistical Division by resource required for each category of activities:

Category of activities:	Minimal resources (less than 6 person-months)	Moderate resources (between 6 person-months and 2 person-years)	Substantial resources (two person-years or more)
Coordination of international statistical work in the ECE region	2 activities	1 activity	2 activities
Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic, social and demographic statistics	4 activities	2 activities	2 activities
Methodological work in various statistical areas	16 activities	9 activities	--
Technical assistance to ECE member countries	--	1 activity	1 activity
TOTAL (all categories):	22 activities	13 activities	5 activities

7.   For each statistical activity, the codes of the relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation are also indicated for reference. In fact, the Statistical Programme is used as an input to the Integrated Presentation, and the information for both products is stored in the same database.

8.   Any new activities undertaken in the course of the year and not mentioned in the programme will be included in the "Report on the implementation of the Statistical Programme" to be presented for review by the CES Bureau in October 2004. Moreover, it should be noted that any new activity would affect the fulfilment of the activities that have been already approved.

9.   The Statistical Programme for 2004 includes twelve new activities and five activities proposed for phasing out in the period 2004-2005. The new activities are:

- Activity 1.3: Towards a Statistical System of International Organizations
- Activity 1.5: Handbook of Official Statistics
- Activity 2.2: Gender statistics database
- Activity 2.6: Public access to ECE Statistical Databases
- Activity 2.8: Contribution to "UNECE Weekly"
- Activity 3.4: Statistical confidentiality and access to microdata
- Activity 3.8: Sustainable Development statistics
- Activity 3.10: Measuring globalisation – the multinational enterprises (MNEs) project
- Activity 3.16: Families and households
- Activity 3.21: Crime and justice statistics
- Activity 3.22: Health statistics
- Activity 3.23: Gender statistics

10.	The activities proposed for phasing out in the period 2004-2005 are:

• 	Activity 2.5: Robotics
• 	Activity 3.7: Integration of statistics and geography
• 	Activity 3.14: Information and Communication Technology (ICT)
• 	Activity 3.18: Demographic projections
• 	Activity 3.24: Registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics

11.	The following two summary tables are presented at the end of the Statistical Programme:

• 	Annex 1 presents the statistical activities by IP Programme Element and type of activity;
• 	Annex 2 presents the statistical activities by IP Programme Element and ECE Division.

**PART I. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN
BY THE ECE STATISTICAL DIVISION**

**1. COORDINATION OF INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL WORK
IN THE ECE REGION**

1. Coordination of international statistical work in the ECE region

Activity 1.1: Integrated Presentation

Summary description

The Integrated Presentation of International Statistical Work brings together the statistical programmes of work of about 25 international agencies active in the UNECE and OECD areas, with the aim of coordinating statistical work and avoiding possible duplication.

Ultimate output

♦ Develop the Integrated Presentation database to facilitate (i) browsing and search of information by the users and (ii) updating of the information by the participating organizations.

Detailed description

♦ The Integrated Presentation is updated every year in January, based on the Statistical Programme and contributions from about 25 International Organizations. Eurostat and OECD are the main contributors, including their statistical programmes. For the ECE, the updating of the Integrated Presentation in January 2004 will be done on the basis of the ECE Statistical Programme for 2004.
♦ It is expected that, in 2004, the annual updating of the Integrated Presentation will be done for the first time using the IP database. Since April 2003, the IP database is available on the public ECE website in a test version.
♦ Further work will be carried out to develop and improve the IP database, with the aim of facilitating browsing and search of information by the users. It is expected that the development and improvement of the IP database will progressively reduce the need for a paper version of the Integrated Presentation.
♦ The main contributing organizations (UNECE, Eurostat and OECD) will continue to work together on the implementation of batch updating of the database using e-mail.
♦ A review of the Integrated Presentation (including possible changes to the time-frame and the classification of statistical activities) will take place in 2004, based on the decisions taken by the CES Bureau in October 2003.

Resource implications

Substantial

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

1.1   Promotion and coordination of multilateral statistical work

1. Coordination of international statistical work in the ECE region

Activity 1.2: Annual ECE statistical programme

Summary description

The Annual ECE Statistical Programme presents, in an integrated document, all statistical activities carried out by the various ECE Divisions and Units.

Ultimate output

♦ Comprehensive, well presented Annual ECE Statistical Programme

Detailed description

♦ The main purpose of the ECE Statistical Programme is to (i) give an overview of all statistical activities carried out by the various Divisions and Units of the UNECE; (ii) help prioritise the activities undertaken by the ECE Statistical Division; and (iii) allow for more transparency and focus on the work.
♦ The Annual ECE Statistical Programme for 2005 will be prepared on the basis of the 2004 edition, which will be updated by the respective ECE Divisions and Units.
♦ A report on the implementation of the 2004 programme describing the changes made after its completion (in particular new activities and activities that were dropped) will be prepared for review by the CES Bureau in October 2004.

Resource implications

Moderate.

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

1.1   Promotion and coordination of multilateral statistical work

1. Coordination of international statistical work in the ECE region

Activity 1.3: Towards a statistical system of International Organizations

Summary description

Participation in a drafting group under the auspices of the UN Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (CCSA) to establish a declaration of principles for the statistical activities of international organizations.

Ultimate output

♦ List of principles to be agreed at the meeting of the CCSA in September 2004, for later adoption by the Statistical Commission and endorsement by the appropriate high-level bodies of each international organization.

Detailed description

♦ Under the leadership of UNSD, the drafting group is composed of IMF, World Bank, OECD, UNESCO, World Trade Organisation, World Tourism Organisation, and ECE. The final product should include a list of principles, based on the fundamental principles of official statistics, but modified and complemented in such a way as to be applicable to the various types of statistical activities of international organizations. This activity is a follow-up to the paper prepared by ECE for the CCSA meeting in September 2003 under the title "Towards a Statistical System".
♦ Meetings: CCSA in March and September (New York)

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

1.1   Promotion and coordination of multilateral statistical work

1. Coordination of international statistical work in the ECE region

Activity 1.4: Secretariat support to the work of the CES and its Bureau

Summary description

Provide secretariat support to the work of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES), which is the Principal Subsidiary Body of the UNECE Statistical Division. The CES coordinates the statistical activities of the three main international organizations working in the region, Eurostat, OECD and ECE, as well as the statistical activities of CIS-STAT, UNSD and of other organizations in the UN system such as IMF, ILO, WHO and the World Bank. The work of the Conference is steered by its Bureau.

Ultimate output

♦ Improved coordination of the international statistical work (data collection, processing and dissemination, methodological work, technical cooperation, etc.) carried out by the various international agencies active in the UNECE region with the goal of avoiding duplication of work, efficient use of resources and reducing the burden on member countries.

Detailed description

♦ Provide secretariat support for the work of the Bureau on an ongoing basis, including the Conference.
♦ Organize, prepare and service the annual plenary session of the CES (June 2004), which includes three modules: a session on formal business and two seminar sessions.
♦ Organize, prepare and service the two Bureau meetings (February and October 2004).
♦ Prepare the documentation for the CES plenary session and the Bureau meetings (see also Activity 1.1: Integrated Presentations, and Activity 1.2: Annual ECE Statistical Programme).
♦ Coordinate the work of the various Steering Groups that work under the auspices of the CES in various statistical areas and report their activities to the Bureau.
Meetings:
♦ Conference annual plenary session in June (Paris, June 2004)
♦ Bureau meetings twice per year (Geneva, February 2004 and Washington, D.C., October 2004)

Resource implications

Substantial

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
1.1   Promotion and coordination of multilateral statistical work
Secondary category:
1.2   Managerial and policy issues of direct concern to presidents of NSOs

1. Coordination of international statistical work in the ECE region

Activity 1.5: Handbook of official statistics

Summary description

The Handbook of Official Statistics presents a description of organizational and legal aspects of national systems of official statistics in all 55 member countries of the UN Economic Commission for Europe.

Ultimate output

♦   Updated online version of the Handbook of Official Statistics

Detailed description

New activity:
♦   The Handbook of Official Statistics is available online on the ECE website, but in the past few years the information was not regularly updated. During 2004, the information contained in the Handbook will be reviewed. A mechanism to ensure that information will be regularly updated in future will be set up.
♦   Material currently available on this subject, including information on national statistical legislation available on the UNSD website, will be taken into consideration in updating the Handbook of Official Statistics.

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
1.2   Managerial and policy issues of direct concern to presidents of NSOs

2. COLLECTION, PROCESSING AND DISSEMINATION OF MACROECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

2. Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic, social and demographic statistics

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

Summary description

Provide relevant, timely and harmonized statistics for economic analysis conducted by the ECE.

Ultimate output

- Maintain database and produce timely and relevant statistical data for:
  - "Economic Survey of Europe" (2 issues per year)
  - Mid-year Review of Economic Conditions in ECE Region
  - Structural and other one-time in-depth economic and social studies
  - "Trends in Europe and North America" (2005)
  - Public electronically accessible database (see Activity 2.6: Public access to ECE statistical databases)

Detailed description

- Ongoing maintenance (collection, verification and analysis) of a database of over 50,000 economic time series covering 55 countries in the region, in the following areas:
  - National Accounts
  - Industrial Production
  - Employment
  - Unemployment
  - Population
  - Wages
  - Labour productivity
  - Unit labour costs
  - Retail trade
  - Investment outlays
  - Prices
  - Purchasing Power parities
  - Exchange rates
  - Interest rates, money supply
  - Imports and exports
  - Balance of payments
  - Government expenditure, revenue and deficit

- ◆ Although the database covers all 55 ECE member countries, most of the resources are used for processing data on transition economies.
- ◆ One time collection, verification, analysis and compilation of detailed historical data sets as input to special economic and social studies:
  - ▪ Evolution and adaptation of economic structures in the ECE region
  - ▪ Analysis of intra-industry and other foreign trade patterns
- ◆ Development/implementation of statistical methodologies, as required, to enhance data quality and usefulness and to support analytical studies:
  - ▪ Methods of regional aggregation for various series such as GDP, price indices, etc.
- ◆ Development, implementation, and maintenance of SQL-based software applications required to manage and provide access to data series, and to implement statistical methodologies.

Resource implications

Substantial

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
6.2   Other statistically related activities of the ECE secretariat
Secondary categories:
3.1   Implementation of the system of national accounts
3.2   Money and banking, government finance, and balance of payments
3.3   Statistics on international trade in goods
3.6   Statistics on international trade in services
3.8   Statistics on other marketed services, and non-marketed services
3.9   Price statistics, including purchasing power parities
3.11   Industrial statistics
3.14   Business registers and administrative records in support of economic statistics
3.99   Other work in the field of economic statistics
4.1   Demographic statistics (including projections, migration and fertility)
4.4   Labour statistics

2. Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic, social and demographic statistics

Activity 2.2: Gender statistics database

Summary description

Provide relevant, timely and harmonized statistics for gender policy analysis.

Ultimate output

♦ User-friendly database accessible to the public through the ECE regional gender statistics website with up-to-date statistics that are relevant to gender policy analysis in the economic and social areas.

Detailed description

♦ Maintain and update the UNECE Gender Statistics Database, the central database for sex-disaggregated social data. This database contains Common Gender Indicators for the ECE region, and detailed statistical data series that are used to calculate these indicators. Data series are presented in line with the policy areas, which are:
  - population
  - families and households
  - work and the economy
  - education
  - public life and decision-making
  - health
  - crime and violence

  New activity in 2004:
♦ A new strategy for updating of the Gender Statistics Database and the associated web site will be implemented. The aim is to have a regular update without overburdening National Statistical Offices, in making an optimal use of existing data available in other international organizations, through agreements between UNECE and these organizations. Questionnaires will continue to be sent to country gender statistics focal points only for those data that are not available in other international organizations.

Resource implications

Substantial

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
4.10   Gender statistics
Secondary categories:
4.1   Demographic statistics (including projections, migration and fertility)
4.4   Labour statistics
4.5   Education and training statistics
4.8   Crime and criminal justice statistics
4.9   Health statistics

2. Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic, social and demographic statistics

Activity 2.3: Statistical database advisory and support services

Summary description

Advisory and support services provided to other divisions regarding use of the ECE SQL database system for data management and the PC-Axis software family products for data dissemination.

Ultimate output

♦ Ensure that the statistical assets of the Statistical Division and the ECE are properly documented and managed, and can be easily retrieved when required.

Detailed description

♦ A database management system using MS SQL Server was developed by the Statistical Division to manage data series for the macroeconomic database. This system is also used by the Environment and Human Settlements Division for the Human Settlements Database, by the Population Activities Unit (Economic Analysis Division) for the Demographic Database and by the Transport Division for the transport statistics database (see Activity 6.3: Development and updating of the ECE population database; Activity 7.2: Collection, processing and dissemination of housing statistics; and Activity 9.1: Collection, processing and dissemination of transport statistics). The Statistical Division will support these other users to ensure the continuous good functioning of the system.
♦ The Statistical Division has completed the selection of a software tool (PC-Axis family of products) for the public dissemination of time series via the Web. An implementation plan for the Statistical Division data was agreed and work is underway. The Statistical Division will provide support on the use of the PC-Axis system to other interested users. (see also Activity 2.6: Public access to ECE Statistical Databases)

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

6.2   Other statistically related activities of the ECE secretariat

2. Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic, social and demographic statistics

Activity 2.4: Trends in Europe and North America: the statistical yearbook of the ECE

Summary description

Preparation of a publication of the yearbook type, which has been published every two years. The target audience is the general public.

Ultimate output

♦ 2005 issue of Trends in Europe and North America

Detailed description

♦ Review the current publication and develop a new strategy for its production and dissemination in future.
♦ Study possible synergies with work on other databases maintained by the Statistical Division.

New activity:
♦ Introduction of thematic maps using new software tools.

Resource implications

Moderate.

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

6.1   Dissemination of data and coordination of international data collection

2. Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic, social and demographic statistics

Activity 2.5: Robotics

Summary description

Collect, compile and analyse robot statistics.

Ultimate output

♦ Publication World Robotics 2004.

Detailed description

♦ Collect, compile and analyse robot statistics for inclusion in the publication World Robotics 2004.

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
3.11   Industrial statistics

NOTE: This activity will be phased out after the 2004 publication.

2. Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic, social and demographic statistics

Activity 2.6: Public access to ECE statistical databases

Summary description

Public dissemination of data collected and processed by ECE for its analytical activities, in particular the "Economic Survey of Europe", the Gender Statistics database, and "Trends in Europe and North America – the Statistical Yearbook of the ECE".

Ultimate output

♦ WEB-accessible central database for all ECE data disseminated to the public.

Detailed description

New activities:
♦ Statistical data series collected and processed for the economic analysis conducted by the UNECE will be organized by broad themes and delivered over the WEB by PC-AXIS. This dissemination service will include a metadata system in support of public users.
♦ Organize statistical data and text information presented in the Gender Statistics Website and in "Trends in Europe and North America" for public access via the WEB.
♦ Web access to the core national accounts series for all ECE countries using PX-Web.
♦ Web access to a set of main tables of Trends using PX-Web.
(see also Activity 2.1: Economic data collection, analysis and advice, Activity 2.2: Gender Statistics Database, and Activity 2.4: Trends in Europe and North America)

Resource implications

Moderate

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
6.1   Dissemination of data and coordination of international data collection
Secondary categories:
4.10   Gender statistics
6.2   Other statistically related activities of the ECE secretariat

2. Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic, social and demographic statistics

Activity 2.7: Energy statistics

Summary description

Contribute to the timely update of the IEA/OECD/Eurostat database on energy statistics.

Ultimate output

♦ Contribution to the IEA/OECD/Eurostat database on energy statistics, with reference in particular to non-EU countries.

Detailed description

♦ Dispatch questionnaires to CIS and Balkan countries for processing by IEA and Eurostat.
♦ Negotiate access to database for participating countries.

Resource implications

Minimal.

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
3.12   Energy statistics.

2. Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic, social and demographic statistics

Activity 2.8: Contribution to "UNECE Weekly"

Summary description

Contribution of statistical tables and information notes to "UNECE Weekly", newsletter introduced in 2003.

Ultimate output

♦ Up-to-date, relevant and well presented statistical tables and information notes for the "UNECE Weekly"

Detailed description

♦ Statistical tables are selected, formatted and submitted for inclusion in all issues of the "UNECE Weekly". Occasionally, statistical tables proposed by other Divisions are also checked.
♦ Short articles are drafted and submitted for inclusion in "UNECE Weekly" on an ad-hoc basis, reflecting important events or news.
♦ Short articles are also drafted and submitted for inclusion in "UNSD Newsletter" on an ad-hoc basis.

Resource implications

Minimal.

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
6.1   Dissemination of data and coordination of international data collection

3. METHODOLOGICAL WORK IN VARIOUS STATISTICAL AREAS

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.1: Human development and
Millennium Development Goals (MDG) indicators

Summary description

Development of standard statistical indicators for human development reporting and monitoring of progress towards achievement of MDG in South-East Europe and CIS countries.

Ultimate output

♦ Relevant indicators used by countries in South-East Europe and the CIS in their national reports on human development and Millennium Development Goals.

Detailed description

♦ In cooperation with the UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS (RBEC), ECE will continue to elaborate proposals for a core set of statistical indicators to be used by countries for national human development reports and national reports on progress towards the achievement of MDG. This will include methodological work on the disaggregation of indicators at the local level.
♦ Organization of workshops at the regional and sub-regional level to ensure a proper feedback from analysts to national statistical offices.
♦ Develop and implement statistical methodologies, such as factor analysis, to analyse progress towards MDGs.

Resource implications

Moderate.

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
2.9   Millennium Development Goals and human development
Secondary categories:
1.3   Relations with countries in Southeast Europe and the CIS
4.11.1 Social indicators and frameworks

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.2: Statistical information processing

Summary description

This area covers the methodological and organizational aspects of statistical data processing focusing on structures, models and procedures.

Ultimate output

♦ Improved statistical information systems in national and international statistical agencies
♦ Facilitate cooperation among statistical agencies in the field of statistical information processing and better harmonisation of data models, concepts, etc.
♦ Facilitate cooperation work, data and knowledge sharing among statistical agencies.

Detailed description

Management of statistical information systems:
♦ Steering Group on Management of Statistical Information Systems 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 the best practices; (iv) facilitate and encourage implementation of standards and recommendations in the field of statistical data processing in the ECE region.
♦ Meeting on Management of Statistical Information Systems (17-19 May 2004), to consider: (i) web technology in statistical information systems; (ii) development of IT strategies in statistical offices; (iii) open source in statistics; (iv) review and follow-up to the activities in the field of statistical data processing with focus on statistical metadata.
Interchange of statistical information:
♦ Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session Electronic Data Reporting (second half of 2004), to consider: (i) National integration (e-government initiatives); (ii) National research (quality issue, organization, administrative sources); (iii) Respondents' behaviour (security, e-commerce, built-in edits, benchmarking of data); (iv) Communication and support (helpdesk, training); (v) Implementation (in parallel with the programme of work of the work session).
♦ Active cooperation with other international organizations in the work aimed at standardization of electronic data interchange (EEG6, GMWG, SDMX)
Meetings:
♦ Meeting on Management of Statistical Information Systems (17-19 May 2004)
♦ Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session Electronic Data Reporting (second half of 2004)

Resource implications

Moderate

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
2.1   Management of statistical information technology infrastructure
Secondary categories:
2.2   Statistical data collection and processing
2.3   Dissemination and interchange of statistical information

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.3: Statistical data editing

Summary description

This area covers the methodological issues related to data quality control at the collection phase.

Ultimate output

?   Improved quality of statistical data used within the national statistical offices in the region

?   Facilitate 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.

?   Publish methodological guides on data quality control, data editing and imputation.

Detailed description

Statistical data editing:

?   Methodological publication "Statistical Data Editing, Vol. 3" devoted to evaluation methods and quality indicators for statistical data editing.

?   Work Session on Statistical Data Editing (autumn 2004- spring 2005), to discuss data editing methods and techniques with a particular focus on evaluation methods and quality indicators for statistical data editing.

Meetings:

?   Work Session on Statistical Data Editing (Ottawa, autumn 2004 - spring 2005)

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:

2.2   Statistical data collection and processing

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.4: Statistical confidentiality and access to microdata

Summary description

Secretariat support to the work of the Task Force on Confidentiality and Microdata working under the auspices of the Conference of European Statisticians to develop a set of principles and associated guidelines for confidentiality protection of microdata and their dissemination (this activity is a follow-up to the seminar on statistical confidentiality and microdata held at the 2003 CES plenary session).

Ultimate output

♦ Compile a set of current best practices to guide the implementation of the principles for confidentiality protection in accessing microdata by researchers.

Detailed description

♦ Provide secretariat support to the work of the Task Force, in line with the Terms of Reference. The Task Force is composed of the Heads of the National Statistical Offices of Australia (Chair), Canada, Denmark, Georgia, Italy and Poland. Delivery of a draft set of current best practices for consideration by the CES Bureau in October 2004.

Resource implications

Minimal.

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
2.1   Management of information technology infrastructure.

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.5: Statistical metadata

Summary description

This activity is focused on data models and structures for statistical metadata in statistical information processing and dissemination context.

Ultimate output

♦   Identification and publication of good practices in statistical metadata
♦   Implementation of developed standards and recommendations on statistical metadata

Detailed description

♦   Joint UNECE-Eurostat-OECD Work Session on Statistical Metadata (METIS) (9-11 February 2004) to consider: (i) Functions of metadata in statistical production; (ii) Metadata interchange; (iii) Metadata models and terminology; (iv) Using metadata for searching and finding statistical data in websites and portals.

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
2.3   Dissemination and interchange of statistical information
Secondary categories:
2.1   Management of statistical information technology
2.2   Statistical data collection and processing

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.6: Managing statistical output for dissemination

Summary description

Identification and promotion of good practices in dissemination of statistical information by national statistical offices in the light of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.

Ultimate output

♦ Publication of good practices in dissemination of statistical information

Detailed description

♦ Publication of best practices for dealing with the media summarising the outcomes of preceding meetings on statistical output for dissemination to information media.
♦ Follow-up to the Work Session on Dissemination of Statistical Commentary and Stories (4-5 December 2003) to consider: (i) How to make a story out of statistics. Recruiting and training of storytellers, and the creation of a favourable culture. (ii) How to decide which stories to tell and to ensure they are of high quality. (iii) Dissemination of statistical commentary and stories. How to get them through to the user (general public and the media) (iv) How to integrate statistics from different sources and subject-matter areas to produce analysis that would be of interest to a wide audience.

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
2.3   Dissemination and interchange of statistical information

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.7: Integration of statistics and geography

Summary description

This activity, which evolved from former activities on survey processing, is oriented to particular issues of using geo-referenced data in statistical production.

Ultimate output

♦ Exchange of experience on geo-coding and geo-referencing

Detailed description

♦ Joint UNECE-Eurostat Work Session on Geographical Information Systems (16-18 June 2004) to consider: (i) infrastructure requirements for geo-statistics; (ii) cooperation between national statistical institutes and geo-data providers; (iii) solutions for supporting user needs, and (iv) geo-coding and geo-referencing of datasets used in statistics in different countries
♦ A possible one-day training session for interested countries may be organized back-to-back with the meeting.

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
2.6   Geographical and regional data

NOTE: The ECE involvement in this area will be phased out after the 2004 meeting.

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.8: Sustainable development statistics

Summary description

Secretariat of the CES Steering Group on Sustainable development

Ultimate output

♦ 2005 CES Seminar on sustainable development addressed to chief statisticians

Detailed description

New activity in 2004

♦ Review of activities carried out by international organizations and selected national statistical offices in the area of sustainable development statistics. Identification of key issues related to the role of national statistical offices in the collection, dissemination and analysis of statistics for sustainable development.
♦ Support the members of the Steering Group in the finalization of an agenda for the CES seminar in 2005 and the development of a proposal for CES work programme on sustainable development statistics.

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
2.8   Sustainable development

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.9: National accounts

Summary description

Promote the implementation of the methodology of 1993 System National Accounts (1993 SNA) in the UNECE member countries with emphasis on the Transition Economies.

Ultimate output

♦ Ensure that a full range of high quality national accounts data produced according to the 1993 SNA standards exists for all countries in the UNECE region with emphasis on the Transition Economies, and more particularly the CIS countries and South-East Europe.

Detailed description

Methodological work
♦ The methodological work related to the implementation of 1993 SNA is carried out in close cooperation with Eurostat, OECD and CIS-STAT. The work is coordinated within the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA) composed of Eurostat, OECD, IMF, World Bank, UN Statistics Division and the UN Regional Commissions.
♦ Participate and contribute to the work of the ISWGNA, which steers the work on national accounts in the ECE region.
♦ Contribute to the work undertaken by the UNSD, following the decision of the Statistical Commission, for updating the SNA methodology by 2008. Ensure the regional context of the revision.
♦ Contribute to the work of the Canberra II Group on Measurement of Capital
♦ Prepare and disseminate the methodological document on best practices in estimating service lives of fixed assets. The document will be reviewed in April 2004 by a National Accounts Expert Group meeting.

Meetings:
♦ Joint UNECE/OECD/Eurostat Meeting on National Accounts, Geneva, 26 –28 April 2004 to be held under the general motto "Responding to user needs" to consider: (i) Short-term statistics and their relation to national accounts; (ii) Consistency of time series: practical solutions for defining long series when there are changes in methodologies and classifications; (iii) The link between satellite accounts and national accounts (including: do we have to benchmark satellite accounts to national accounts?); (iv) Quantitative methods to control the quality of national accounts (including the interaction with basic statistics); (v) Conceptual issues and recent methodological developments.
♦ Special session on National Accounts for the CIS countries, back-to-back with the Joint ECE/Eurostat/ OECD Meeting on National Accounts, Geneva, 25 April 2004 to consider: (i) Flash estimates of GDP and (ii) Allocation of FISIM.
♦ Special ECE session on National Accounts for Transition Economies organized back-to-back with the OECD meeting on National Accounts in October 2004. The ECE secretariat organizes sessions devoted to issues of specific concern to transition economies.

Resource implications

Moderate

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
3.1   Implementation of the system of national accounts

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.10: Measuring globalisation – The multinational enterprises (MNEs) project

Summary description

♦ Secretariat support to the work of the Steering Group on measuring the activities of multinational enterprises (MNEs) to be carried out under the auspices of the Conference of European Statisticians and its Bureau - the MNE Project (this activity is a follow-up to the seminar on globalisation held at the 2003 CES plenary session).

Ultimate output

♦ Recommendations on measuring the activities of MNEs, contributing to improved national and international economic statistics.

Detailed description

♦ Provide secretariat support to the work of the Steering Group, in line with the Terms of Reference. The MNE Project was proposed by Statistics Canada and endorsed by the Conference of European Statisticians in June 2003. Four National Statistical Offices (Canada, France, Spain and United Kingdom) will participate in an initial phase of the project. The OECD, IMF, UNCTAD and the European Central Bank also expressed interest in the project. The project is expected to continue in successive phases over several years. If the recommendations on measuring the activities of MNEs are endorsed by the CES, they would be passed on to the National Statistical Offices or to the appropriate international organizations or standard-setting body (e.g. the UN Statistical Commission).
♦ Progress report of the Steering Group at the annual CES session in June 2004.

Resource implications

Minimal.

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
3.6   Statistics on international trade in services
Secondary categories:
1.1   Promotion and coordination of multilateral statistical work
3.3   Statistics on international trade in goods
3.8   Statistics on other marketed services, and non-marketed services

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.11: Consumer price indices (CPI)

Summary description

Development and dissemination of standards and norms of CPI.

Ultimate output

- Adoption of the new CPI manual by the CES.
- Papers on the implementation of the CPI manual based on countries' surveys.

Detailed description

- Under the guidance of a Steering Group carry out a number of investigations concerning evaluation of the implementation of the new CPI manual in areas such as: treatment of seasonal items and seasonal adjustment, owner-occupied housing, etc.
- Start the preparations for the 2005 ECE/ILO meeting on CPI.

<u>New activity:</u>
- Submit the new manual on CPI to the 2004 Conference of European Statisticians for adoption.

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
3.9   Price statistics, including purchasing power parities

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.12: International comparisons of GDP

Summary description

Participate in programmes on international comparisons of GDP, such as the European Comparison Programme (ECP) and the International Comparison Programme (ICP).

Ultimate output

♦ Coordinate Comparisons in the ECE Region.
♦ Publication of the 2000 ECP.

Detailed description

♦ ECP: Joint Consultation with all the international and national statistical offices involved in the calculation of the 2004 results to be organized in 2006, provided that the results for the CIS countries are available and that financial provision is made so that they will be able to attend the Consultation.
♦ ICP: Contribute to the current global comparisons undertaken by the World Bank, in the context of the ECE region.
♦ Benchmarking Purchasing Power Parities to multiple occasional benchmarks.

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
3.9   Price statistics, including purchasing power parities
Secondary category:
3.1   Implementation of the system of national accounts

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.13: Agriculture statistics – Task force on rural development

Summary description

Development and dissemination of standards and norms on best practices in agriculture and rural development statistics.

Ultimate output

♦ Manual on statistics on rural development and the agriculture household unit (2005)

Detailed description

♦ Prepare the 3rd World Conference on Agriculture Statistics in 2004 (ECE-Eurostat-FAO-OECD-ISI).
♦ Start preparations for the 2005 joint ECE/Eurostat/FAO/OECD Meeting on Food and Agriculture Statistics.
♦ Preliminary discussions with FAO on procedures for the 2010 round of agricultural censuses.
♦ Contribution to the work of the Task Force on Rural Development Statistics and Agriculture Household Income. The Task Force will prepare an international handbook on compiling rural statistics and propose definitions of the agriculture household and how to measure its income and wealth. This work will have an important political relevance in the sense that greater focus will be made on follow-up systems on "Who gets what?". The final product will be reported to the 2005 meeting (see above).

Resource implications

Moderate.

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
3.10   Agriculture, forestry and fishery statistics

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.14: Information and communication technology (ICT)

Summary description

Follow-up and finalise the ECE/UNCTAD/ITU/UIS/OECD/Eurostat Workshop on Monitoring the Information Society (December 2003).

Ultimate output

♦ Conclusions and recommendations of the Workshop.

Detailed description

♦ Prepare the "Conclusions and recommendations" of the Workshop and communicate them to the Statistical Commission.

Resource implications

Minimal.

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
3.13   Science and technology statistics, including ICT

NOTE: The ECE involvement in this area will be phased out after the conclusion of the activities associated with the follow-up to the Workshop.

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.15: Business registers

Summary description

Development and dissemination of standards and norms and best practices in business registers.

Ultimate output

♦ Results of the survey on business registers in non-EU countries, to be published on the ECE website.

Detailed description

♦ Prepare and disseminate the ECE/Eurostat questionnaire on business registers, and prepare an analytical paper on the results.
♦ Start the preparations on the joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD meeting on business registers (June 2005).

Resource implications

Minimal.

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
3.14   Business registers and administrative records in support of economic statistics

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.16: Families and households

Summary description

Work, in collaboration with Eurostat and some NSOs, on a project aimed at (i) evaluating household and family issues encountered by countries in their 2000 population censuses and in major European surveys, and (ii) developing recommendations on families and households for the 2010 population censuses and for large-scale household surveys.

Ultimate output

♦ Improved recommendations on families and households to be used for the 2010 round of censuses (2006) and in large-scale household surveys.

Detailed description

♦ Work, in collaboration with Eurostat and other interested NSOs (e.g. Canada, Norway and the USA), on the following three tasks:
  ▪ Task 1: Evaluate household and family issues encountered by countries in their 2000 population censuses;
  ▪ Task 2: Evaluate household and family issues encountered by countries in major European surveys such as EU-SILC and LFSs;
  ▪ Task 3: Develop and propose improved recommendations on families and households for inclusion in the new set of ECE-Eurostat recommendations for the 2010 round of population censuses in the ECE region (see also Activity 3.19: Population and Housing censuses)
  ▪ Task 4: Develop recommendations on families and households for large-scale household surveys
♦ Task Forces composed of interested NSOs will be established to help to advance the work more quickly. Task 1 will be conducted from Autumn 2003 – Summer 2004; Task 2 requires funding support, and can be started when funding becomes available; Tasks 3 and 4 will have to draw on the outputs of the first two tasks.

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
4.1   Demographic statistics (including projections, migration and fertility)
Secondary category:
4.2.1   Population and housing censuses
4.11.2 Multi-purpose social surveys

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.17: Migration statistics

Summary description

Provide support and contribute to the activities of the Steering Group working on the preparation of the 2005 Joint ECE-Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics.

Ultimate output

♦ Cross-country comparisons by Eurostat and the ECE on international migration flows (2005)
♦ In-depth studies conducted by 4-5 interested countries on their experiences in implementing the current set of UN recommendations on international migration statistics in censuses and other data sources (2005)
♦ Input to the ECE-Eurostat recommendations for the 2010 round of population censuses in the ECE region (2006)

Detailed description

Methodological work:
♦ Preparatory work for the Joint ECE-Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics (Spring 2005) to focus on: (i) Carrying out of cross-country comparisons by Eurostat and the ECE on international migration flows, and (ii) Presentation of the results obtained by 4-5 countries from in-depth studies they conducted on their experiences in implementing the current set of UN recommendations on international migration statistics in censuses and other data sources.
Data collection:
♦ Annual collection of statistics on international migration flows (joint data collection of Eurostat, ECE, UNSD, Council of Europe and ILO).

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
4.1   Demographic statistics (including projections, migration and fertility)
Secondary category:
4.2.1   Population and housing censuses

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.18: Demographic projections

Summary description

Contribute to the organization of the Joint Eurostat/ECE Work Session on Demographic Projections (Vienna, 10-12 November 2004).

Ultimate output

♦ Exchange of experiences and discussion on new methodologies for demographic projections.

Detailed description

♦ Joint Eurostat/ECE Work Session on Demographic Projections (Vienna, 10-12 November 2004), to consider the following topics:
  ▪ Latest international, national and sub-national population and household projections;
  ▪ New approaches and experiences in estimating, analysing and projecting trends and patterns of fertility, mortality, migration and household structures and dynamics;
  ▪ Accuracy and uncertainty in international, national and sub-national population and household projections;
  ▪ Documentation and dissemination strategies;
  ▪ Users and uses of projections; and
  ▪ Evaluation and use of projections software.
Preparatory work for the meeting carried out in cooperation with the Netherlands (NIDI and Statistics Netherlands) and Austria as the host country (Statistics Austria and IIASA).

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
4.1   Demographic statistics (including projections, migration and fertility)

NOTE: The ECE involvement in this area will be phased out after the 2004 meeting.

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.19: Population and housing censuses

Summary description

Promote and coordinate, jointly with Eurostat, the work on the preparation of the new set of CES recommendations for the 2010 round of population and housing censuses in the ECE Region.

Ultimate output

♦ New set of CES recommendations for the 2010 round of population and housing censuses in the ECE Region (2006)

Detailed description

Methodological work:
♦ Preparation (jointly by ECE and Eurostat) of the new set of CES recommendations for the 2010 round of population and housing censuses in the ECE Region. To the extent possible, the work will be closely coordinated with the work UNSD undertakes on preparing the world recommendations for the 2010 round of censuses that will be tailored more to the needs of developing countries, while the CES recommendations are tailored more to the circumstances and needs of statistically more advanced countries. The CES recommendations for the 2010 round of censuses will likely be of great importance for achieving international comparability of the census results, because of the growing divergence among countries in the ECE region in the methods and data sources they plan to use in collecting and producing census and census-like data. Work on the preparation of the new set of recommendations is expected to culminate in the CES adopting the new set of recommendations in 2006.
♦ The work in 2004 will consist of the following steps, to be reviewed by the CES Bureau in October 2003:

Step 1 (ECE in consultation with Eurostat): Distribute a detailed questionnaire to all ECE countries to obtain information on the extent to which they complied with the ECE/Eurostat Recommendations for the 2000 round of censuses, as well as feedback on which parts of the 2000 recommendations should be revised and improved, and which new issues should be addressed.

Step 2 (ECE and Eurostat): Prepare synoptic papers based on the results of the questionnaire and establish a list of issues to be addressed by the methodological work, with a detailed timetable.

Step 3: Set up Task Forces composed of a small number of interested countries to conduct work on designated issues insofar as they are not already subsumed under other activities of this programme (e.g., families and households, see Activity 3.16: Families and households).

Meetings:
♦ Joint ECE-Eurostat Work Session, based on inputs from Task Forces (November 2004)

Resource implications

Moderate

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
4.2.1   Population and housing censuses
Secondary categories:
4.1   Demographic statistics (including projections, migration and fertility)
4.11.3 Registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.20: Labour statistics

Summary description

Contribute to the development of methodologies and identification of good practices on the measurement of various aspects related to labour conditions.

Ultimate output

♦ Good practices on the measurement of various aspects related to labour conditions.

Detailed description

♦ Joint ECE-Eurostat-ILO Seminar on Measurement of the Quality of Employment (Spring 2004), on the theme "Equitable opportunities for employment: conceptual and methodological issues", to consider:
   (i) Access to the labour market, social exclusion;
   (ii) Inadequate employment situations (skill-related, income-related, etc.);
   (iii) Non-discrimination at work or in access to work (sex, age, education, ethnic origin, migration status, balance between work and family life, etc.);
   (iv) Workers' representation and participation.
   (Timing of the meeting to be proposed after consultations between ECE, ILO, Eurostat and interested countries serving on the meeting's Steering Committee)

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
4.4   Labour statistics

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.21: Crime and justice statistics

Summary description

Work towards the preparation of guidelines for comparable crime and justice statistics in the ECE region, to be discussed at a meeting organized in 2004 or 2005.

Ultimate output

♦ Regional guidelines to improve international comparability of crime and justice statistics.

Detailed description

New activity in 2004
♦ Following the discussion at the June 2003 plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians, ECE is launching work towards the improvement of comparability of crime and justice statistics in the region, in cooperation with interested international organizations.
♦ A Steering Group composed of the international organizations concerned (including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime - UNODC) plus two or three country representatives will prepare Terms of Reference for a meeting to be organized in late 2004 or early 2005, which will be presented to the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians for its review and endorsement.

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
4.8   Crime and criminal justice statistics

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.22: Health statistics

Summary description

Work towards the improvement of the comparability of health status statistics in the ECE region, in cooperation with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and Eurostat.

Ultimate output

♦ Guidelines for improving international comparability of statistics on health status.

Detailed description

New activity in 2004
♦ Organize a joint ECE/WHO meeting on health statistics in 2004, in cooperation with Eurostat (to be confirmed). The main recommended items on the agenda will be:
  ▪ Recent advances in measurement of population health status
  ▪ Comparability issues in health status survey data
  ▪ Targeting at a regional set of questions to be used in surveys to measure health status.
♦ Identify some countries to use the regional set of questions on health status in their household surveys and report back on their experiences and results.
♦ ECE will take into account Eurostat activities on the preparation of the European Health Interview Survey to be implemented in 2006.

Resource implications

Moderate

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
4.9   Health statistics

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.23: Gender statistics

Summary description

Methodological work on gender statistics

Ultimate output

♦ Regional guidelines defining relevant statistics on emerging gender-related issues

Detailed description

New activity in 2004

♦ Methodological work on the methods used to collect and disseminate statistics on emerging gender-related issues, especially (i) women and men entrepreneurship; (ii) gender and ICT; (iii) violence from a gender perspective.

♦ Prepare proposals for regional guidelines on the basis of surveys conducted by ECE in 2003 on national practices in these areas, and discussions in international fora (OECD seminar on entrepreneurship, World Summit on Information Society, etc.)

♦ Work session on gender statistics to be organized in late 2004 or early 2005. A Steering Group will be established to define the Terms of Reference of the work session and propose an appropriate timing for scheduling of the session.

Resource implications

Moderate

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
4.10   Gender statistics
Secondary categories:
3.13   Science and technology statistics, including ICT
4.1   Demographic statistics (including projections, migration and fertility)
4.4   Labour statistics
4.5   Education and training statistics
4.8   Crime and criminal justice statistics
4.9   Health statistics

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.24: Registers and administrative records
for social and demographic statistics

Summary description

Provide support and contribute to the activities of the Steering Group preparing the next Joint UNECE/Eurostat Work Session on Registers and Administrative Records for Social and Demographic Statistics, tentatively scheduled in Spring 2005.

Ultimate output

♦ Compendium on best practices in the use of administrative data for social and demographic registers (2005)

Detailed description

♦ At the December 2002 Joint UNECE-Eurostat Work Session on Registers and Administrative Records for Social and Demographic Statistics, a Steering Group was appointed to elaborate a concrete proposal for future work to be submitted to the CES Bureau (tentatively in February 2004).
♦ In the course of 2004, the Steering Group should approach a small number of countries with experience in this field and ask them to prepare methodological material on the use of registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics, for publication in a "Compendium on best practices in the use of administrative data for social and demographic registers".

Resource implications

Minimal

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
4.11.3 Registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics

NOTE: The ECE involvement in this area will be phased out after the 2005 meeting.

3. Methodological work in various statistical areas

Activity 3.25: Statistical Journal of the UNECE

Summary description

The UNECE Statistical Journal covers a wide range of statistical areas of international concern, including: statistical cooperation in Europe and North America; organization and operation of statistical services; methodological development and harmonization of statistics in different fields; conceptual development and frameworks; measurement issues related to specific topics.

Ultimate output

♦ Four issues of the Journal per year.

Detailed description

♦ The work on the preparation of the Statistical Journal is coordinated by an Editorial Board which:
  ▪ Identifies potential authors and contributors of papers
  ▪ Reviews and selects papers for publications
  ▪ Coordinates the publishing process with the publisher (IOS Press)
  ▪ Works towards publicising and disseminating the journal
♦ The papers to be published in the journal are selected in different ways:
  ▪ Papers voluntarily submitted by authors
  ▪ Papers requested by the Editorial Board
  ▪ Papers presented at meetings in the CES work programme (which are always posted on the ECE website)

Resource implications

Moderate

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

6.1 Dissemination of data and coordination of international data collection

4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO ECE MEMBER COUNTRIES

4. Technical assistance to ECE member countries

Activity 4.1: Bilateral technical cooperation

Summary description

Statistical capacity building in individual countries.

Ultimate output

♦ Increased statistical capacity in individual ECE member countries, enabling them to meet the needs of data users at the national and international level.

Detailed description

♦ Statistical capacity building in ECE member countries, with a special emphasis on South-East Europe and CIS countries.
♦ Bilateral technical cooperation is provided at the request of national authorities and/or international organizations involved in the capacity building of the country. It is carried out by the Regional Adviser on Statistics and/or by staff members of the Statistical Division. Various topics are covered, such as: general organization of the statistical system, fundamental principles of official statistics, indicators for human development and MDG reporting, economic or social statistics, etc.

Resource implications

Moderate

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
1.3   Relations with countries in Southeast Europe and the CIS

4. Technical assistance to ECE member countries

Activity 4.2: Multilateral technical cooperation

Summary description

Statistical capacity building in sub-regional groups of countries.

Ultimate output

♦ Increased statistical capacity in groups of ECE member countries, especially within South-East Europe and the CIS countries, enabling them to meet the needs of data users at the national and international level.

Detailed description

♦ Statistical capacity building in groups of ECE member countries, through training services provided to these countries by the Regional Adviser on Statistics budget and through the regular meetings programme of the Conference of European Statisticians. Countries are mainly part of South-East Europe or the CIS.
♦ Participation in inter-agency collaborative efforts aimed at assisting Southeast European and CIS countries.
♦ Structuring all programme activities and seminar sessions of the Conference of European Statisticians to reflect also the concerns of Southeast European and CIS countries.
♦ The ECE Statistical Division is the executing agency for an ECE/UNDP project. The aim of this project is to assist countries in Southeast Europe and the CIS to improve the statistics they require for human development reporting and for social planning and policies generally. This includes the development of indicators for the monitoring of progress toward the achievement of Millennium Development Goals.
♦ Transfer of useful knowledge and experience acquired in the programme of work of the Conference of European Statisticians to the countries outside the ECE region.

Resource implications

Substantial

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
1.3   Relations with countries in Southeast Europe and the CIS

**PART II. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN
BY OTHER ECE DIVISIONS**

5. ECONOMIC ANALYSIS DIVISION

5. Economic Analysis Division

Activity 5.1: Collection of additional statistical indicators

Summary description

In addition to the macroeconomic statistics collected by the ECE Statistical Division, the Survey Team in EAD compiles regularly a series of statistical indicators for use in economic analysis.

Ultimate output

Statistical tables for use in economic analysis.

Detailed description

Data collection/data management on:
♦ Real effective exchange rates in Transition Economies and their components (unit labour costs etc.) in all ECE countries.
♦ Total employment in Transition Economies, on quarterly and annual basis.
♦ Industrial employment in Transition Economies, on quarterly and annual basis.
♦ Level and rate of registered unemployment in Transition Economies, on monthly basis.
♦ Consumer and business confidence indicators (monthly) for the aggregate of EU, Euro-zone and the US.

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
3.99   Other work in the field of economic statistics
Secondary categories:
3.11   Industrial statistics
4.4   Labour statistics

6. ECONOMIC ANALYSIS DIVISION - POPULATION ACTIVITIES UNIT (PAU)

6. Economic Analysis Division - Population Activities Unit (PAU)

Activity 6.1: Generations and gender programme (GGP)

Summary description

The GGP (subject to availability of additional extra-budgetary funds) is a cross-national, comparative, multidisciplinary, longitudinal study of the dynamics of the family and family relationships in the contemporary industrialised countries.

Ultimate output

♦ Methodological Guidelines for survey instruments, including the study design and sampling, the questionnaires, and contextual database.
♦ Data from participating countries for comparative research
♦ Descriptive and analytical reports of participating countries
♦ Analytical thematic cross country reports

Detailed description

Methodological work:
♦ (i) Promotion and coordination of conduct of a new round of cross-nationally comparable surveys conducive to documenting and explaining changes in the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations within the context of differential family formation;
♦ (ii) Promotion and collection of census samples from the 2000-round of censuses in cooperation with the Minnesota Population Center, University of Minnesota (for details see also Activity 6.2: Population Ageing Project)
♦ (iii) Inventory of national and international databases for the contextual macro-level indicators.
♦ Further elaboration of methodologies for the collection and analysis of comparable survey and census sample data and macro-level contextual data for the study of the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations.
♦ Technical documents pertaining respectively to the collection and standardization of data collection and analysis especially (i) survey design and sampling for longitudinal data; (ii) 2000-round microdata census samples and (iii) contextual macro-level indicators.
New activities to be undertaken:
♦ For the survey programme: the conduct of pilot surveys using the standard model questionnaire in participating countries; the development of survey codebook; development of analysis programme, and conduct of surveys in participating countries.
♦ For the census programme: modification of the existing strategy for drawing microdata samples from the 2000-round of population and housing censuses; prepare census comparability study; draw microdata census samples.
♦ For the contextual analysis: inventory of relevant national and international databases; establishing the operational parameters of a contextual database, and initiating the creation and maintenance of such a database in a central location.

Meetings:
♦ Third meeting (Spring 2004) of the Informal Working Group of the Generations and Gender Programme
♦ Ninth meeting of the Consortium Board of the Generations and Gender Programme on the launching of the data collection (Spring 2004)
♦ Fourth meeting (Fall 2004 or Spring 2005) of the Informal Working Group of the Generations and Gender Programme

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
4.1   Demographic statistics (including projections, migration and fertility)
Secondary categories:
4.2.2   Statistics on population groups of special interest
4.10   Gender statistics

6. Economic Analysis Division - Population Activities Unit (PAU)

Activity 6.2: Population ageing project

Summary description

The main objectives of the Population Ageing Project are: to assemble a set of cross-nationally comparable microdata samples based on the 1990 and 2000-round national population and housing censuses in countries of Europe and North America, and to use these samples to study the social and economic conditions of older persons.

Ultimate output

♦ A collection of harmonized microdata samples based on the 1990- and 2000- rounds of national population and housing censuses in up to 15 countries in the UNECE region;
♦ An integrated system of metadata on the census samples;
♦ A series of reports on the social and economic status of older persons in selected countries;

Detailed description

♦ Maintenance of the collection of census samples based on the 1990 round of censuses (this will involve working with the data distributors on the release of the data sets and support to end-users; maintenance of the data sets as they are upgraded from beta to pre-release and final versions; working to increase the visibility and use of the data sets).
♦ Assembling a collection of census samples based on the 2000 round of censuses in cooperation with the Minnesota Population Center, University of Minnesota, (Minneapolis, USA) and the Center for Demographic Studies (Barcelona, Spain) within the framework of the ICM Europe project (including a study of census data comparability for the censuses of the 2000 round; modification of the existing strategy for drawing microdata samples from the population and housing censuses; drawing the samples from the 2000 round of censuses).
♦ Promotion of cross-national comparative research on the status of older persons.

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
4.2.2   Statistics on population groups of special interest
Secondary category:
4.2.1   Population and housing censuses

6. Economic Analysis Division - Population Activities Unit (PAU)

Activity 6.3: Development and updating of the ECE population database

Summary description

Further development and regular updating of the ECE population database.

Ultimate output

♦ Provide internal and external users with a consistent and comprehensive demographic data set on the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

Detailed description

♦ The work on development and regular updating of the ECE population database is carried out as a follow-up activity to the International Conference on Population and Development.

♦ Work on the database includes:
   ▪ Regular updating of the data collections included in the database
   ▪ Finalization of a data collection exercise aimed at filling the gaps of the time series
   ▪ Development of a system to make the database available to the public through the Web

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

Main category:
4.1   Demographic statistics (including projections, migration and fertility)

7. ENVIRONMENT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS DIVISION

7. Environment and Human Settlements Division

Activity 7.1: Environmental monitoring

Summary description

Provide recommendations, propose action plans, and strengthen international initiatives within the region in the area of environmental monitoring and related areas.

Ultimate output

- ♦ Assessment reports on the state of the environment (jointly with the European Environment Agency).
- ♦ Appraisal of reporting requirements within the framework of the "Environment for Europe" process.

Detailed description

Methodological and analytical work:
- ♦ The *Ad Hoc Working Group on Environmental Monitoring* serves as an instrument to provide recommendations, to propose action plans, and to strengthen international initiatives within the region in the area of environmental monitoring and related areas (http://www.unece.org/env/europe/environmental_monitoring.htm). The Working Group assisted the European Environment Agency (EEA) to produce a 3rd pan-European assessment report on the environment based on region-wide indicators. The report was submitted to the Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" held in Kiev in May 2003. The work on the indicators for the Kiev report was accompanied by support to countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia to improve and streamline the development and the application of environmental indicators at the national level.

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

5.1   Sectoral concepts, definitions, classifications and environmental databases

7. Environment and Human Settlements Division

Activity 7.2: Collection, processing and dissemination of housing statistics

Summary description

Regular collection and dissemination of data on housing from national and international sources.

Ultimate output

♦ Public "Human settlements database" presenting updated housing statistics
♦ Statistical tables on housing statistics on the ECE website
♦ Country profile for the Russian Federation (mid-2004)
♦ A review of progress achieved in the implementation of commitments taken at Rio and Johannesburg on the thematic area of human settlements for the Regional Implementation Meeting on sustainable development, the output of which will feed into CSD12

Detailed description

Data collection:
♦ The annual collection of time series statistics through the questionnaire for the biannual "Bulletin of Housing Statistics for Europe and North America" and the "Human Settlements" database. The data collected are also used for other ECE publications, in particular for the programme of country profiles on the housing sector.
Dissemination:
♦ Country profile for the Russian Federation
♦ Bulletin on Housing Statistics for Europe and North America (only on the web)
♦ Human settlements trends in the ECE region
♦ *Human settlements database*: The Environment and Human Settlements Division has developed and maintains a Human settlements database (HS), with specific reference to data on housing. Data are collected for the ECE's "Bulletin of Housing Statistics for Europe and North America" and other ECE publications through the questionnaire and from a number of both national and international sources. The database is available on ECE's intranet, and also on the Internet through the address <http://w3.unece.org/environment/humansettlements.asp>. Data on the Internet are replicated every night from the internal database and therefore information is up-to-date according to the data entry schedule.
♦ Statistical tables on housing statistics are regularly updated biannually on the ECE website.
Methodological work:
♦ Check time series data for accuracy and consistency, which involves working with focal points of national statistical offices.

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

4.3   Human settlements and housing statistics

8. TRADE DIVISION (TIMBER BRANCH)

8. Trade Division (Timber Branch)

Activity 8.1: Collection, processing and dissemination of forest statistics

Summary description

Collection and dissemination of data on production and trade of forest products.

Ultimate output

♦ Produce timely and relevant forest statistics, including data on production and trade of forest products, and on forest fires.

Detailed description

♦ Four organizations - FAO, ECE, Eurostat and ITTO (International Tropical Timber Organisation) - work together to collect and disseminate data on production and trade of forest products, through the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire.

Data collection/data management:
♦ Forest Products Statistics
♦ Forest Products Trade Flow Data
♦ Forest Resource Assessment data
♦ Forest Fire Statistics

Dissemination of statistical products:
♦ Annual issue of the Timber Bulletin
♦ Timber Committee's website: < http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/welcome.htm>
♦ CD-ROMs

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

3.10   Agricultural, forestry and fishery statistics

8. Trade Division (Timber Branch)

Activity 8.2: Analytical and methodological work
on forest statistics

Summary description

Analytical and methodological studies on different issues in the area of forest statistics.

Ultimate output

♦ Methodological improvements in areas such as forest resource assessment and forest fire.
♦ Analysis of forest resources and forest products markets.

Detailed description

The Timber Branch, in cooperation with other members of the Inter-secretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics, carries out various analytical and methodological studies on different issues in the area of forest statistics.
Analytical products:
♦ Forest resources of Europe, CIS, North America, Australia, Japan and New Zealand
♦ Long-term historical changes in the forest resource
♦ Forest Products Annual Market Analysis, published in the Timber Bulletin
♦ Report on the implementation of resolution H3 (MCPFE) on forestry assistance to economies in transition
♦ Series of publications under the European Forest Sector Outlook Studies (EFSOS)
♦ State of Europe's Forests
Methodological work:
♦ Elaboration of parameters/variables/data items to be reported in Global Forest Resources Assessment 2005, including corresponding terms and definitions under close review by the Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics. Agreed preliminary plans for next forest resource assessment.
♦ Activities by the teams of specialists on forest resource assessment, on forest products markets and marketing, on European forest sector outlook studies, and on forest fire.
Meetings:
♦ Inter-secretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics (membership: ECE, FAO, Eurostat, ITTO, OECD, EEA, CEC). Meetings about twice a year.
♦ Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics (March 2004)

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

3.10   Agricultural, forestry and fishery statistics

8. Trade Division (Timber Branch)

Activity 8.3: Technical cooperation on forest statistics

Summary description

Capacity building in member countries through workshops and meetings of national correspondents.

Ultimate output

♦ Improved capacity in forest statistics.

Detailed description

♦ Future cooperation is expected to focus on the following issues:
  ▪ economically viable, multifunctional sustainable forest management and its enabling legal and financial environment;
  ▪ conservation and sustainable development of forest resources;
  ▪ development of the institutional framework of the public and private forestry as well as the forestry administration;
  ▪ increasing public awareness of forest issues;
  ▪ involvement of the public in forestry matters and recognition of the cross-sectoral nature of most forestry issues.
♦ Detailed information on cooperation projects with economies in transition of Central and Eastern Europe in the forestry and forest products sector is presented in the H3 database. The H3 database was set up within the framework of the implementation of resolution H3 of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE), and is available on the Timber Committee's website at the following address: < http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/h3/H3database.htm>

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

3.10   Agricultural, forestry and fishery statistics

9. TRANSPORT DIVISION

9. Transport Division

Activity 9.1: Collection, processing and dissemination
of transport statistics

Summary description

Collection and dissemination of transport statistics, including data on motor traffic, road traffic accidents and rail traffic.

Ultimate output

♦ Good quality, relevant and timely transport statistics.

Detailed description

♦ The Transport Division, in cooperation with ECMT and EUROSTAT, regularly collects and disseminates transport statistics, including data on motor traffic, road traffic accidents and rail traffic.
Data collection:
♦ Common questionnaire for the Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics (with ECMT and EUROSTAT)
Dissemination - Publications:
♦ Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics (with ECMT and EUROSTAT), sales publication available through the UN Sales section; format: only printed version.
♦ Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America, annual sales publication available through the UN Sales section; format: only printed version.
♦ Main Transport Indicators for the UNECE Region, annual booklet available free on request through the UN Sales section; format: only printed version.

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

3.4   Transport statistics

9. Transport Division

Activity 9.2: Methodological work on transport statistics

Summary description

Development of the new edition of the Glossary of transport statistics and of new sets of Draft recommendations to Governments on motor traffic and rail traffic in Europe.

Ultimate output

♦ Improved international comparability of transport statistics.

Detailed description

♦ The Transport Division, in cooperation with ECMT and EUROSTAT, is working on the new edition of the Glossary of transport statistics and on new sets of Draft recommendations to Governments on motor traffic and rail traffic in Europe.

Methodological work:
♦ Glossary of transport statistics. Undertaken together with the ECMT and Eurostat. Continuously updated. Published: occasionally. 3rd Edition published in 2003, a new edition expected in 2004.
♦ Draft Recommendations to Governments on the Combined Census of Motor Traffic and Inventory of Standards and Parameters on Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe in 2005. Final Recommendations in 2004.
♦ Draft recommendations to Governments on the E-Rail Traffic Census in Europe in 2005 jointly undertaken by the UNECE and EUROSTAT. Final Recommendations in 2004.

Meetings:
♦ Inter-secretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (ECE, ECMT and Eurostat). Two-three meetings per year, with the location rotating between Geneva, Paris and Luxembourg. Continuous work on common projects such as the Glossary, database and common questionnaires.

Relevant Programme Elements in the Integrated Presentation

3.4   Transport statistics

ANNEX 1
ECE Statistical activities by IP Programme Element and type of activity - 2004

IP Programme Activity and Programme Element (Statistical areas)	Data collection	Data dissemi-nation	Analytical products	Method. work (incl. standards, best practices, recomm., etc.)	Org. of meetings	Technical cooperation
P.A. 1: Org. and operation of stat. services						
1.1 Promotion and coordination of multilateral statistical work				X	X	
1.2 Managerial and policy issues of direct concern to presidents of NSOs				X	X	X
1.3 Relations with countries in Southeast Europe and the CIS						X
1.4 Relations with countries outside the ECE region (including countries in the Med. Reg.)						
P.A. 2: Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues						
2.1 Management of information technology infrastructure				X	X	
2.2 Statistical data collection and processing				X	X	
2.3 Dissemination and interchange of statistical information				X	X	
2.4 Statistical Classifications						
2.5 Statistical research and development						
2.6 Geographical and regional data				X	X	
2.7 Human resource development						
2.8 Sustainable development	X (1)			X (1)	X	X
2.9 Millennium Development Goals and human development				X	X	X
P.A. 3: Economic statistics						
3.1 Implementation of the system of national accounts	X	X		X	X	
3.2 Money and banking, government finance, and balance of payments	X	X		X		
3.3 Statistics on international trade in goods	X	X				
3.4 Transport statistics	X	X		X	X	
3.6 Statistics on international trade in services						
3.7 Tourism statistics						
3.8 Statistics on other marketed services, and non-marketed services	X	X		X		
3.9 Price statistics, including purchasing power parities	X	X		X		
3.10 Agricultural, forestry and fishery statistics	X	X	X	X	X	X
3.11 Industrial statistics	X	X	X			
3.12 Energy statistics	X					
3.13 Science and technology statistics, including ICT				X		
3.14 Business registers and administrative records in support of economic statistics	X	X		X		
3.99 Other work in the field of economic statistics	X	X				
P.A. 4: Social and demographic statistics						
4.1 Demographic statistics (including projections, migration and fertility)	X	X		X	X	
4.2.1 Population and housing censuses	X	X		X	X	
4.2.2 Statistics on population groups of special interest	X			X	X	
4.3 Human settlements and housing statistics	X	X	X	X		
4.4 Labour statistics	X	X		X (1)	X (1)	
4.5 Education and training statistics	X	X				
4.6 Culture statistics						
4.7.1 Statistics of household income and expenditures, of the welfare of the population, and of poverty and income inequality						
4.7.2 Social security statistics						
4.8 Crime and criminal justice statistics	X	X		X	X (1)	
4.9 Health statistics	X	X		X	X (1)	
4.10 Gender statistics	X	X		X	X (1)	
4.11.1 Social indicators and frameworks						
4.11.2 Multi-purpose social surveys						
4.11.3 Registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics				X		
P.A. 5: Environment Statistics						
5.1 Sectoral concepts, definitions, classifications and environmental databases				X		
5.2 Environmental accounting						
P.A. 6: Dissemination and support for secretariat activities						
6.1 Dissemination of data and coordination of international data collection	X	X				
6.2 Other statistically-related activities of the ECE secretariat	X	X		X		

Notes: (1) To be confirmed

ANNEX 2
ECE Statistical activities by IP Programme Element and ECE Division/Unit – 2004

IP Programme Activity and Programme Element (Statistical areas)	Statistics Division	Economic Analysis Division (incl. Population Activities Unit)	Environment and Human Settlements Division	Trade Division (Timber Branch)	Transport Division
P.A. 1: Organization and operation of statistical services					
1.1 Promotion and coordination of multilateral statistical work	X				
1.2 Managerial and policy issues of direct concern to presidents of NSOs	X				
1.3 Relations with countries in Southeast Europe and the CIS	X				
1.4 Relations with countries outside the ECE region (including countries in the Med. Reg.)					
P.A. 2: Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues					
2.1 Management of information technology infrastructure	X				
2.2 Statistical data collection and processing	X				
2.3 Dissemination and interchange of statistical information	X				
2.4 Statistical Classifications					
2.5 Statistical research and development					
2.6 Geographical and regional data	X				
2.7 Human resource development					
2.8 Sustainable development	X				
2.9 Millennium Development Goals and human development	X				
P.A. 3: Economic statistics					
3.1 Implementation of the system of national accounts	X				
3.2 Money and banking, government finance, and balance of payments	X				
3.3 Statistics on international trade in goods	X				
3.4 Transport statistics					X
3.6 Statistics on international trade in services					
3.7 Tourism statistics					
3.8 Statistics on other marketed services, and non-marketed services	X				
3.9 Price statistics, including purchasing power parities	X				
3.10 Agricultural, forestry and fishery statistics	X			X	
3.11 Industrial statistics	X	X			
3.12 Energy statistics	X				
3.13 Science and technology statistics, including ICT	X				
3.14 Business registers and administrative records in support of economic statistics	X				
3.99 Other work in the field of economic statistics	X	X			
P.A. 4: Social and demographic statistics					
4.1 Demographic statistics (including projections, migration and fertility)	X	X (PAU)			
4.2.1 Population and housing censuses	X	X (PAU)			
4.2.2 Statistics on population groups of special interest		X (PAU)			
4.3 Human settlements and housing statistics			X		
4.4 Labour statistics	X	X			
4.5 Education and training statistics	X				
4.6 Culture statistics					
4.7.1 Statistics of household income and expenditures, of the welfare of the population, and of poverty and income inequality					
4.7.2 Social security statistics					
4.8 Crime and criminal justice statistics	X				
4.9 Health statistics	X				
4.10 Gender statistics	X	X (PAU)			
4.11.1 Social indicators and frameworks					
4.11.2 Multi-purpose social surveys					
4.11.3 Registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics	X				
P.A. 5: Environment Statistics					
5.1 Sectoral concepts, definitions, classifications and environmental databases			X		
5.2 Environmental accounting					
P.A. 6: Dissemination and support for secretariat activities					
6.1 Dissemination of data and coordination of international data collection	X				
6.2 Other statistically-related activities of the ECE secretariat	X				