



# Impact of the 19<sup>th</sup> ICLS Resolution on Work Statistics on the Framework for Measuring Quality of Employment

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- International statistical standards on employment adopted by the International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS)
- Forms of work conceptual framework (19th ICLS)
- Employment definition in the MQE Handbook
- Development options discussed by the Steering Group on MQE
- Conclusions and way forward

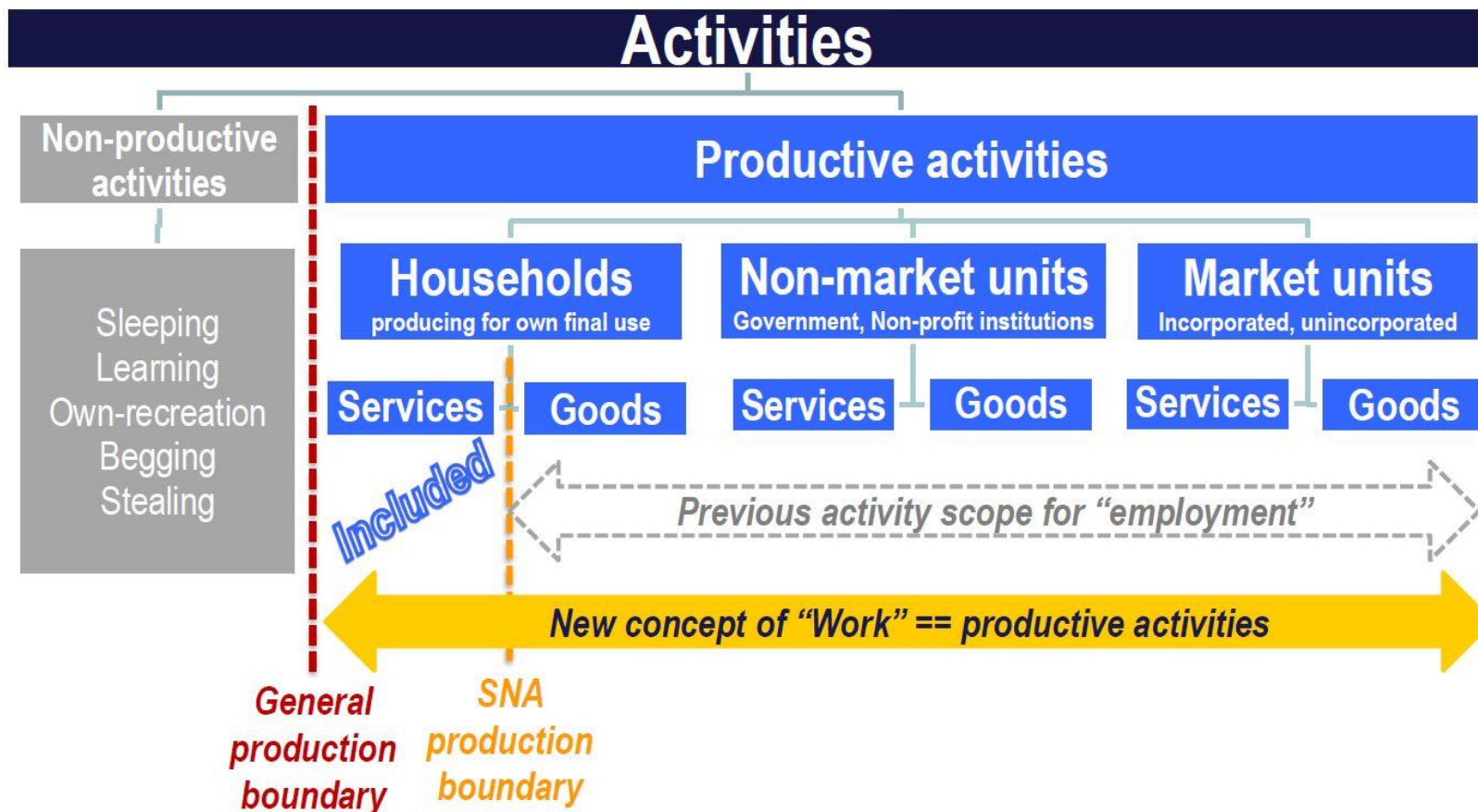


# Background

- **Definition of employment for MQE**
  - Until 2013: Resolution concerning statistics of the economically active population, employment, unemployment, and underemployment (13th ICLS 1982)
  - Since 2013: Resolution concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization (19th ICLS 2013). Web link:  
[http://www.ilo.org/global/statistics-and-databases/standards-and-guidelines/resolutions-adopted-by-international-conferences-of-labour-statisticians/WCMS\\_230304/lang-en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/statistics-and-databases/standards-and-guidelines/resolutions-adopted-by-international-conferences-of-labour-statisticians/WCMS_230304/lang-en/index.htm)
- **Scope of employment narrowed in 2013**
- **Implications for the handbook on MQE**
  - Global applicability?
  - Inconsistencies in subdimension 1b and informal employment indicator



# The concept of work in the SNA



Source: ILO



# Employment according to the 13th ICLS Resolution (1982)

- According to the SNA production boundary:
  - Work for pay or profit
  - Unpaid apprentices and trainees
  - Persons producing goods for own final use (such as subsistence foodstuff producers) if such production comprised an important contribution to the total household consumption
  - Persons who volunteered
    - through/for organisations
    - to produce goods for other households, if the production comprised an important contribution to the total household consumption.



# Forms of work in the 19th ICLS

## Resolution on work statistics

**Diagram 1. Forms of work and the System of National Accounts 2008**

<i>Intended destination of production</i>	<i>for own final use</i>		<i>for use by others</i>					
<i>Forms of work</i>	<b>Own-use production work</b>		<b>Employment (work for pay or profit)</b>	<b>Unpaid trainee work</b>	<b>Other work activities</b>	<b>Volunteer work</b>		
	of services	of goods				in market and non-market units	in households producing	
							goods	services
<i>Relation to 2008 SNA</i>			<i>Activities within the SNA production boundary</i>					
			<i>Activities inside the SNA General production boundary</i>					

Source: Resolution concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization (19th ICLS 2013).



# Definition in the MQE Handbook

- **Employment defined as work for pay or profit**
  - Broader scope (following the respective international standards):
    - Subdimension 1b: Child labour and forced labour
    - Informal employment
  - Employment too narrow to achieve global applicability of the handbook?
- **Problem of multiactivity**
  - Currently all jobs should be covered, in practice focus on main job
  - Problems increase if several forms of work are to be covered





# Possible development options (1)

## **Option a): Keep the status quo**

- *Keep the current framework with its scope restricted to work for pay or profit with a general recommendation to apply the indicators to other forms of work where relevant*
- *Continue to have an exceptional deviation for subdimension 1b (child labour and forced labour)*

## **Option b): Keep status quo while adjusting the indicators on child labour and forced labour**

- *Keep the current framework with its scope restricted to work for pay or profit with a general recommendation to apply the indicators to other forms of work where relevant*
- *Adjust the indicators for subdimension 1b in order to ensure consistency of the framework.*





# Possible development options (2)

**Option c): Keep dimensions and indicators, but provide users with a summary recommendation, which (sub)dimensions could be relevant for unpaid forms of work**

- *Keep the current framework with its scope restricted to work for pay or profit*
- *Add a recommendation by (sub)dimension giving recommendations which (sub)dimensions should be applied to each of the forms of unpaid work*
- *Maintain the exception made for subdimension 1b or consider the options mentioned under 4.2*



# Possible development options (3)

## **Option d): Keep dimensions and indicators, but provide guidance indicator by indicator regarding the applicability for unpaid forms of work**

- *Keep the current framework with its scope restricted to work for pay or profit*
- *Add detailed recommendations indicator by indicator regarding the application of each indicator to each of the forms of unpaid work (e.g. as an additional annex of the handbook), however without redrafting the indicator sheets in order to take into account additional issues related to the measurement of the quality of unpaid forms of work*
- *Identify problems of applicability and development topics*
- *Maintain the exception made for subdimension 1b or consider the options mentioned under 4.2*



# Possible development options (4)

## **Option e): Redesign the framework into a framework for measuring quality of work**

- *Extend the scope of the framework to all forms of work (or all forms of work within the SNA production boundary)*
- *Revise the entire handbook and the indicator sheets identifying which indicators could be applied to which forms of work and how they should be measured and interpreted*
- *A practical approach needs to be found how to make multiple work activities operational*



# Conclusions of Steering Group – Helsinki January 2017

- Agreed to maintain the coverage of sub-dimension 1b to include also unpaid work and work of children (5 years and over)
- Agreed to keep the indicator on informal employment rate as defined by the 17th ICLS Guidelines.
  - Could eventually reconsider the issue in case of a revision of the ICLS standards on informality.
- Thus, for sub-dimension 1b and informal employment rate, the Steering Group accepted the inconsistency with the 19th ICLS Resolution on Work statistics.
- Was general support for a solution along Options c) and d)
- Agreed that Subgroup 2 should develop a proposal to present to the MQE Expert Group.



# Proposed way forward (1)

- Guidance document could be drafted to cover the following:
  - Summary information regarding the impact of the 19th ICLS Resolution on work statistics on the MQE statistical framework & indicators, including current inconsistencies in scope.
  - Summary information indicating which subdimensions (fully or partly) may be relevant for unpaid forms of work.
  - An initial review of subdimensions suggests that nearly all could be at least partly relevant for unpaid forms of work. Exceptions:
    - Subdimension 2a: Income from employment
    - Dimension 5 Social Dialogue? Should be reviewed further for applicability to unpaid interns/trainees in some countries.



## Proposed way forward (2)

- Based on review of subdimensions, limited guidance could be developed on selected indicators regarding applicability for unpaid forms of work (without full indicator sheets being developed).
- Subdimension 1b and informal employment rate require particular attention since they already include unpaid forms of work. Guidance should be included in the Handbook.
- Broader document could be a stand-alone reference document or could be included as an Annex to the MQE Handbook in a new revision.



# Thank you for your attention!

Visit the ILO Department of Statistics website:

<http://www.ilo.org/stat/lang--en/index.htm>