

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS
UNECE Expert Meeting on Statistical Data Editing
3 to 7 October 2022, Online

INF.1
20 September
2022

Information Notice No.1

I. PURPOSE AND TARGET AUDIENCE OF THE MEETING

1. The 2022 UNECE Expert meeting on Statistical Data Editing will be held online from 3 to 6 October 2022. The event will be scheduled for a maximum of around 4 hours per day between 1pm and 5pm Geneva time¹.
2. This meeting will be organized as part of the Conference of European Statisticians' work programme for 2022, within the context of the High-Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics.
3. In particular, the expert meeting will explore the following themes:
 - Identifying new methods that can improve the quality and efficiency of editing and imputation;
 - Investigating statistical quality risks arising from using new methods and data sources, and ways to address them;
 - Developing approaches for standardizing and implementing statistical data editing functionalities; and
 - Facilitating the sharing of experiences, ideas and tools for modernizing statistical data editing and imputation processes.
4. The target audience of the expert meeting includes methodologists, statisticians and researchers in official statistics or closely related fields, working on editing and imputation of statistical data derived from surveys, censuses, administrative and external sources in various subject-matter areas.

II. AGENDA OF THE MEETING

5. The participants at the previous meeting on statistical data editing in 2020 expressed their interest in examining the following topics in this meeting:
 - Machine Learning /Artificial Intelligence for editing and imputation;
 - Modernisation of data editing and statistical production;
 - Use of administrative data for editing and imputation;
 - Quality in the context of statistical data editing;
 - Imputation (for 'Covid-19 mass nonresponse') and variance;
 - Use of Deep Learning on Big Data synchronized with editing and imputation;
 - Statistical data editing and pre-processing of new digital data for statistical purposes;
 - Infrastructure needed for open source statistical data editing packages;
 - Selection bias and statistical data editing;
 - Missing prices and outlying price data; and

¹ For your time-zone check <https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/meeting.html>

- New and emerging methods.

6. Based on the abstracts received for this meeting, the agenda will be determined based on a selection of the above-mentioned topics, or amalgamations of them such that presentations made within a particular agenda item have a common theme. This will be reflected in the timetable that will be released closer to the time of the meeting. In addition to presentations by speakers, there may also be short group discussions related to themes such as those outlined above.

III. PARTICIPATION AND ACCREDITATION

7. Representatives of Member States of the United Nations and of interested intergovernmental organizations are welcome to join this meeting, as are researchers at universities or research institutes working on statistical data editing applicable in the context of official statistics. Participants representing non-governmental organizations in a consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council may also join. **All participants must be accredited by the competent authorities of their country or international organization.**

8. Participants should register online by **28 October 2022** by following the link:

<https://indico.un.org/event/1000397>

9. Your timely registration will ensure that you receive any email broadcasts of information that we may send out to those who have registered.

10. Please note that if you do not already have a user account on the indico system, before you can register you may first need to create an account, and then activate it by clicking on the account activation link that is sent to you by email. Once you have a user account, and have logged in, you can submit your registration for this meeting. You will receive a notification confirming this, and then a further notification email when your registration is approved.

IV. CALL FOR PAPERS, METHODS OF WORK AND OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

11. Those who contribute may do so in the form of a presented paper on the topics mentioned above in section II. Alternatively, there is the option of a shorter presentation in the form of a “lightning talk” of around 5 minutes, without any supporting paper. Please note that the official language of the meeting will be English, and therefore all contributions should be submitted in English only. No translation or interpretation during the meeting will be provided.

12. Contributions could report on developments in theory and techniques, empirical comparisons and evaluations of methods, exploration of potential bias of given methods, and ways of combining different methods and data sources in an editing process. They could also highlight the expected impact that new methods might have on a statistical agency, including how they contribute to standardizing concepts, terminology, methods, data structures and improving the quality of its data products. Those who contribute are also encouraged to share links to any code repositories containing code related to their presentation, if applicable (e.g. in GitHub).

13. You are invited to submit the abstract for your contribution via the indico website, by clicking the button marked “**submit new abstract**” on the following webpage:

<https://indico.un.org/event/1000397>

14. Regarding abstracts received, the organizing committee will send notification in due time about whether the submission is accepted or not and might request changes. Information about the selection of contributions for the meeting, guidelines on formatting, and means of submission will be sent to authors by email. Please note that due to the nature of the meeting, it may not be possible to allocate time to all proposed contributions.

15. The following **deadlines** and requirements apply to those who present at this meeting:
- (i) A short abstract of the proposed contribution should be submitted online, as described above, as soon as possible and by **23 March 2022** at the latest.
 - (ii) Any written papers (in PDF format, of around 10 pages) must be supplied by **1 September 2022** at the latest. A link will be sent to the authors where documents can be uploaded. Templates for the paper will be made available following abstract acceptance.
 - (iii) Presentation materials, such as slides, should be supplied by **16 September 2022** at the latest, via the upload link that will be sent to them.

16. Prior to the meeting, papers will be made available online via the following webpage: <https://indico.un.org/event/1000397>. After the meeting, papers and presentations will be made available via the following webpage: <https://unece.org/statistics/events/SDE2022>. Presentations will not be made available to delegates before the meeting.

17. To minimise paper use, participants are encouraged to download these papers and, where feasible, to use electronic devices to read them.

V. VENUE

18. This is an online meeting, and connection link to join the meeting will be sent to those who have registered in due time via indico, as described above.

VI. FURTHER INFORMATION

19. For further information you may contact the following organisers within the Secretariat of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe:

Mr. Christopher Jones, email: JonesC@un.org

Mr. Wai Kit Si Tou, email: sitou@un.org

DEADLINES

23 March 2022	Abstract or proposal for intended contribution
28 October 2022	Registration
1 September 2022	Paper (unless you are making a lightning talk)
16 September 2022	Presentation material supplied
3 to 6 October 2022	Meeting