

Joint UNECE / Eurostat Workshop on Implementing the Common Statistical Production Architecture
Geneva, 22-24 June 2016

INFORMATION NOTICE No. 1¹

I. Introduction

1. The workshop will be held in Geneva, Switzerland, at the premises of the United Nations, from 22-24 June 2016. It is being organised in the context of the work of the High-Level Group on the Modernisation of Official Statistics². It aims to promote the use of the Common Statistical Production Architecture (CSPA), to facilitate the sharing of ideas and plans for modernising statistical production, and to identify opportunities for international collaboration activities.
2. A key challenge facing managers, IT professionals, architects and methodologists in national and international statistical organisations is how to implement new tools and standards that facilitate sharing and re-use across statistical domains and between statistical organisations. The CSPA has been developed to support this trend, and provide a blue-print for a new way of designing, building and implementing the tools needed to produce official statistics. It has been adopted as the basis for the European Statistical System SERV projects, which aim to develop common services as part of the Vision 2020 initiative.
3. The workshop is primarily intended for staff of statistical organisations who are responsible for developing and implementing corporate IT solutions, as well as enterprise and information architects, methodologists and subject-matter specialists involved in the modernisation of statistical production.

II. Agenda of the workshop

4. The workshop will cover the following substantive themes:
 - What is the CSPA, and what does it mean for my organisation? This theme will have a training and capacity-building focus, to ensure participants have a basic understanding of the CSPA and its benefits.
 - How to implement the CSPA: Under this theme, participants are encouraged to present practical case studies showing challenges, successes and lessons learned
 - What does the CSPA mean for different groups of staff? Participants will be split into groups based on the role they play in their organisation (IT professionals, architects, methodologists and subject-matter specialists) to discuss how CSPA implementation will affect their work
 - Overcoming the barriers: How to accelerate CSPA implementation? This theme will focus on how to improve the support to CSPA implementers by identifying any barriers to implementation, and how to remove them.
 - Next steps, and priorities for future work

¹ Further information on the venue and local arrangements will be provided at a later date in Information Notice No. 2.

² See <http://www1.unece.org/stat/platform/display/hlgbas>

III. Participation and accreditation

5. Representatives of all Member States of the United Nations and of interested intergovernmental organisations are welcome to participate in the workshop. Participants representing non-governmental organisations in a consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council may also attend. **All participants must be accredited by the competent authorities of their country or international organisation.** All participants attending the workshop are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa. Applications for visas to Switzerland should be made as soon as possible (to the Swiss Embassy) in the country where the participant resides, with a reference to the Joint UNECE / Eurostat Workshop on Implementing the Common Statistical Production Architecture.
6. Statistical organisations are asked to confirm **before 31 January 2016** whether their organisation intends to participate at the workshop. Please inform the UNECE secretariat (Gerald.muriel@unece.org).
7. Participants are requested to fill in an electronic registration form, which will be available on the website indicated in paragraph 11, **by 31 March 2016**.

IV. Documentation, methods of work and official languages

8. The official language of the workshop is English. Any contributions should, therefore, be submitted in English only. Contributions can include case studies, papers, presentations, demonstrations and videos. Other forms of contribution can be proposed. The following deadlines and requirements apply:
 - Any organisations wishing to submit a contribution to the workshop, are requested to send **a short abstract**, as well as author name(s) and contact details, to the UNECE secretariat (Gerald.muriel@unece.org) as soon as possible and **by 31 January 2016 at the latest**.
 - Contributions should be sent to the UNECE secretariat (Gerald.muriel@unece.org) **by 31 March 2016**. Any papers should be submitted in electronic format in **MS Word**, and should not exceed 10 pages in length.
9. On the basis of the contributions received, the Organising Committee will decide which of them will be allotted time for presentation. Please note that due to the nature of the workshop, **only a limited number of contributions will be presented**, others will be used as background information for the discussions.
10. All contributions as well as the provisional agenda and timetable will be made available on the workshop website at:
<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/06.2016.cspa.html>
11. Participants are encouraged to bring their own copies of contributions to the workshop, as printed copies will **not** be provided.

V. Local arrangements

A. Workshop venue

12. The workshop will be held at:

Palais des Nations, Avenue de la Paix, CH-1211, Geneva, Switzerland

B. Accommodation

13. Participants are reminded that they are responsible for making their own hotel reservations and are encouraged to do so as early as possible.

14. The UNECE and Eurostat regret that they can not provide financial assistance to participants, and can not take any responsibility for financial arrangements with respect to travel or accommodation.

VI. Further information

15. For further information, please contact the following organisers:

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