

OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

1. Demographic and social statistics (OECD)

1.1 Population and migration

International Migration

Purpose

To produce consistent and annual international migration data for OECD member countries and some non-member countries and ensure methodological soundness and comparability of international migration data.

Objectives and outputs

Updating and extending the International Migration Database available via OECD.Stat and publishing an extensive statistical annex in the annual report "International Migration Outlook" (IMO), which contains the most recent available data on migration flows, foreign and immigrant populations, foreign workers, and naturalisations.

Producing and improving standardised long-term and temporary inflows series (see IMO publication).

Updating the Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) to DIOC extended with 2005-2006 Census data and extending it to a significant number of non OECD countries.

Creating a dataset on integration of immigrants and their offspring.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Bulgaria, Chile, Estonia, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Russian Federation

Databases

Migration Statistics

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

A large number of tables will be added to the International Migration Database available via OECD.Stat (harmonised flows of permanent and temporary migrants by category of entry; labour market outcomes of native- and foreign-born populations).

The existing Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) will be extended to a large number of non OECD countries and updated with 2005-2006 data (DIOC-extended).

A dataset on integration of immigrants and their offspring will be created end of year 2010.

Data collection:

Large extension of the geographical coverage (incl. non OECD countries not all listed above)

A large set of tables will be added to the dataset (flows of permanent and temporary migrants by category of entry; LM outcomes of native- and foreign-born populations).

Data management:

As regards to the OECD Database on International Migration, all the metadata have been centrally stored in MetaStore.

Population Projections

Purpose

Create a population projections database to achieve transparency in the use of population projections within OECD.

Objectives and outputs

Creation of the database populated with ELS data.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Cyprus, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa, World

Databases

MEI SQL

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Update the database with UN 2008 revision for the 18 non member countries data and national statistical sites for member countries data.

1.2 Labour

Annual Labour Force Statistics

Purpose

To provide relevant, reliable annual labour force statistics covering long time series for internal OECD users (in particular, the Economics Department), Member country government agencies and other external users in academic institutions and private enterprise.

The Annual Labour Force Statistics (ALFS) publication complements labour force statistics published in the monthly Main Economic Indicators (MEI).

Objectives and outputs

The main objective is to provide long time series for key annual statistics on population, labour force, employment and unemployment. This database contains annual statistics for OECD Member countries comprising: population, total employment, unemployment, civilian employment by sectors, part-time employment, duration of unemployment. Published output also includes participation and unemployment rates by gender and detailed age groups as well as comparative tables for the main components of the labour force.

Data are available for all 30 OECD Member countries and for OECD-Total, Euro area and European Union. Time series cover 20 years for most countries. The long time-series for the data presented facilitate identification of structural changes in labour force over time.

Published output are also accompanied by target OECD and ILO international statistical standards (definitions, etc) and summary methodological information (national definitions, coverage, collection, calculation, series breaks, sources) used by individual OECD Member countries in the compilation of the statistics published in the ALFS.

Databases

Annual Labour Force Statistics

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Add Chile and employment by activities (ISIC Rev4)

Data collection:

Targeted countries slow at responding to the annual questionnaire will be requested to speed up their response.

Infra-annual Labour Force Statistics

Purpose

To provide relevant, reliable key infra-annual labour force statistics such as employment and unemployment (levels, rates) for internal OECD users (in particular, the Economics Department), member country government agencies and other external users in academic institutions and private enterprise.

Objectives and outputs

The main objective is to provide long time series for key infra-annual labour statistics as well as timely short-term indicators on the labour force such as employment and unemployment. Data are disseminated in the OECD Main Economic Indicators (MEI) database, a monthly press release on harmonised unemployment and on OECD.Stat.

The MEI database contains monthly, quarterly and annual indicators on employment, unemployment, labour compensation and for some countries indicators on vacancies, hours worked, labour disputes, etc.

Data are available for all 30 OECD member countries and for key series (employment, unemployment, hourly earnings) aggregates for OECD-Total, Major seven, OECD-Europe, EU27 and Euro area and for selected non-member countries.

In the MEI series are accompanied by summary metadata outlining key concepts, coverage, etc. Published output are also accompanied by target OECD and ILO international statistical standards (definitions, etc) and summary methodological information (national definitions, coverage, collection, calculation, series breaks, sources) used by individual OECD member countries in data compilation.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Chile, China, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa

Databases

ALFS_POP_VITAL ALFS_POP_LABOUR ALFS_EMP ALFS_SUMTAB

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Further revision of explanatory text to incorporate (initial) summary reasons for differences between labour force estimates and estimates compiled by national accountants for labour input measures to national accounts.

Continuation of initiative for the 2009 publication where analytical metadata on key issues that impact on the comparability of headline labour series was presented.

Data collection:

Small number of countries slow at responding to the annual questionnaire will be requested to speed up their response. The collection of further data and metadata for NMEs, in particular, China and India.

Labour Market Statistics

Purpose

To provide statistical information to support analyses for discussion at international meetings on labour policies and for preparatory work for international statistical guidelines. To produce a comprehensive set of statistics to monitor developments in OECD labour markets, improving their international comparability.

Objectives and outputs

Collection, production and dissemination of labour statistics containing labour force, performance (i.e. earnings levels, earnings distribution, etc.) and institutional variables (i.e. minimum wages, ALMP data, EPL index, trade union membership, collective bargaining coverage, etc.) to support labour market analysis. Data are used to produce the statistical annex of the Employment Outlook and the internal and on-line Labour Force Statistics database. Some of the data series are also shown in the Annual Labour Force Statistics publication.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Chile, China, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa

Databases

Labour Market Statistics

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

The expansion of the LFS database will gain momentum to improve country coverage and comparability regarding job tenure and wage earnings data and to compile data in the area of youth and workforce ageing, family related labour market statistics, statistics to characterise inactivity, etc. Some work is underway to produce LFS estimates on labour dynamics to support work undertaken for a chapter in the Employment Outlook, with the aim of complementing, in the medium-term, labour force stock statistics with labour flow statistics.

Time permitting a closer look at statistics to characterise informal employment will be attempted based on existing international guidelines on this subject.

Work underway to consolidate earnings related statistics and to improve their comparability.

Continuation of the assessment of annual working time statistics to improve their international comparability with the aim of publishing of comparable estimates on annual hours actually worked per employed person in the statistical annex of the Employment Outlook.

Migration of remaining data and metadata related to labour market statistics to OECD.Stat for internal and external web based dissemination.

Data collection:

Where possible, development of capability for direct access to labour force survey (public use) microdatasets in non-EU countries.

Exploring microdatasets (to be) obtained from Brazil, India, Indonesia and South Africa

Unit Labour Cost Indicators

Purpose

To maintain and expand the OECD System of Unit Labour Cost and Related Indicators, which brings together a wide range of data sources for all OECD member countries. A set of internationally comparable quarterly unit labour cost (ULC) indexes for eight economic sectors (ULC) indexes are produced together with annual series for ULC, Labour productivity, Labour Compensation (including PPP adjusted), Labour Income shares and Exchange rate adjusted ULC.

In addition the quarterly ULCs provide the inputs to the Economics Department for production of their real effective exchange rates competitiveness indicators.

Objectives and outputs

The key objectives of 2009 were based on established production system to produce both the quarterly and annual indicators updated at quarterly frequency, establish a quarterly press release. In addition, annual ULC systems for Brazil and South Africa were developed.

In addition, annual data was prepared for publication in the OECD Factbook. Joint ULC project between STD and ECB was established and will be continued. Quality of OECD ULC under economic crisis was evaluated at the Seasonal Adjustment Conference at INSEE.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Cyprus, Estonia, Israel, Lithuania, Malta, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Major tasks in 2010 will involve the updating and maintenance of the high quality of the data compiled and disseminated, and continued co-operation with ECB. In addition, to reflect revision of ULC database according to new industrial classification.

Data collection:

Major task will be the incorporation of the very large number of new series into the on-going MEI data collection processes.

Hours worked measurement

Purpose

To investigate national practices and data and metadata availability on hours worked in order to recommend optimal practices for measuring actual hours worked across the OECD, EU, and selected non-member countries.

Objectives and outputs

The main objectives are to identify more harmonised methodologies to compile actual hours worked across directorates of the Organisation for productivity purposes; to finalize the paper "Comparability of labour input measures for productivity analysis".

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Bulgaria, Chile, Cyprus, Estonia, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Russian Federation.

Databases

ALFS_POP_VITAL ALFS_POP_LABOUR ALFS_EMP ALFS_SUMTAB.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

To produce more harmonised methodologies measuring hours worked across the OECD.

Data collection:

Small number of countries slow at responding to the annual questionnaire will be requested to speed up their response. The collection of further data and metadata for NMEs, in particular, China and India.

1.3 Education

AHELO (Assessment of Higher Education Learning Outcomes) Feasibility Study

Purpose

The purpose of the AHELO feasibility study is to assess whether it is possible to measure what undergraduate degree students know and can do at the international level, in order to provide better information to higher education institutions, governments and other stakeholders, including students and employers. This will entail an evaluation of the scientific feasibility of undertaking an international assessment of higher education learning outcomes (in generic and subject-specific skills) at the end of a Bachelor's degree programme, as well as gauging the feasibility of its practical implementation.

Objectives and outputs

In 2010, contractors will start working on the development, adaptation and translation of assessment and survey instruments towards an international implementation. Small scale pilots of these instruments will be undertaken. Subject to funding, the implementation phase could also start in the Asia-Pacific region.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Australia, Belgium, Colombia, Finland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Other, Russian Federation, Sweden, United States.

Education (INES activities)

Purpose

To produce and publish indicators and analysis on the operation, evolution and impact of education, from early childhood through formal education to learning and training throughout life. The collected data cover the outputs of educational institutions, the policy levers that shape educational outputs, the human and financial resources invested in education, structural characteristics of education systems, and the economic and social outcomes of education.

Objectives and outputs

Production of indicators on the financing of education, participation in and graduation from education. Indicators on educational attainment of the adult population and associated labour market outcomes, teacher salaries and work conditions, and instruction time are provided by INES Networks LSO (Labour Market, Economic and Social Outcomes of Learning) and NESLI (Collection and Adjudication of System-level descriptive Information on Educational Structures, Policies and Practices).

The main publication is "Education at a Glance".

Main achievements in 2010 include the consolidation of the technical documentation of the education data collection, the development of indicators on the net present value of education, the relative earnings according to the level of educational attainment and the social outcomes of education as well as on how efficiently are resources used in education, on how do education systems monitor school performance. It also includes the indicators on development of trend data on access and graduation to education and on financial aid to students. Ongoing methodological work includes: students' mobility and graduation comparability study, conceptual framework for the measurement of knowledge and skills, development of efficiency measures, consolidation of tertiary indicators and improvement of the quality of ISCED implementation.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Chile, China, Estonia, India, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia

Databases

Education database

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Education database will benefit from the OECD.Stat and MetaStore developments.

Data and indicator development will include improving the quality and relevance of the tertiary indicators on entry, graduation, survival and student mobility, further developing the indicators on educational efficiency and on financial aid to students. A programme of work will also begin to review comparability issues with the international education classification (ISCED) and to develop solutions to tackle these.

Data collection:

New quality and timeliness standards for data collection and indicator compilation will be introduced. Inclusion of a new questionnaire on Completion rate and average duration of tertiary studies.

Educational Facilities

Purpose

To create an international dataset and indicators on educational facilities.

Objectives and outputs

This first phase of the "CELE International Profile on Educational Facilities Policy and Practice" pilot project addresses the need for basic information on facilities-related issues - some of which in the longer term could be used to generate internationally comparable indicators.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

In 2010, the first phase of the "CELE International Profile on Educational Facilities Policy and Practice" pilot project will be completed. This was launched at first meeting of the CELE Group of National Experts on Educational Facilities Evaluation in 2009. At the meeting, 7 countries agreed to develop and complete an international profiles questionnaire. It covers 3 areas: current issues and challenges that could be seen as responding to changes in education, health, social or other policy; decision-making and procurement approaches in educational infrastructure; and additional sources and reference material. The profiles are currently available on a social networking site, and will be available on line in 2010.

Measurement of Human Capital

Purpose

To produce estimates of the stock of human capital based on the discounted income approach, as a contribution to the work of the joint OECD/UNECE/Eurostat Task Force on Sustainable Development Indicators.

Objectives and outputs

Work started in October 2009, following the secondment of officials from Norway and Turkey. A consortium of partner countries has been established. Communication between the Secretariat and members of the Consortium has been ongoing. Data from various OECD sources have been collected and disseminated to partner countries, to fill gaps.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Romania, Russian Federation

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

A first report of the project should be available in late 2010.

Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)

Purpose

The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) was created by the OECD member countries in 1997 to produce direct assessments of student performance, on a regular basis in an efficient, timely and cost-effective manner; and to provide more relevant and powerful indicators of human capital. PISA produces assessments of reading literacy, mathematical literacy, scientific literacy and a growing range of cross-curricular competencies among 15-year-olds in school.

Objectives and outputs

In 2010, the major initial report from data collected in 2009 will be produced at the end of the year. The major focus of assessment in this round is reading. Moreover, thematic reports will be released in analysing the PISA 2006 data pertaining to the High cost of low educational performance, Students pathways through education and the labour market, The teaching and learning of science, Overcoming socio-economic disadvantages and How students use their learning time.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Estonia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Peru, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Databases

PISA 2006 international database

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

In 2010, the project enters a new phase in that it will be focusing on the production of a major report arising from the data collection activity of 2009.

Data management:

Based on the PISA 2009 survey, new data will be collected for some non-member countries.

Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC)

Purpose

To identify and measure differences between individuals and across countries in key competencies and other economic and social outcomes believed to underpin both personal and societal success; assess their impact on economic and social outcomes; assess the performance of education and training systems in generating the required competencies at the levels required by social and economic demands; and identify key policy levers that lead to enhancing competencies and their effective utilisation.

Objectives and outputs

The objective for 2010 is to implement the field trial (in April-June) and to prepare for the main survey which will be undertaken in 2011-2012.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Chile, Estonia, Russian Federation

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

The project will leave the development phase and enter the implementation phase.

Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS)

Purpose

To provide data and indicators on the learning environment in schools and about the work of teachers, as part of the OECD education indicator work.

Objectives and outputs

The further development of indicators and analysis of teachers, teaching and learning through further analysis of the first round of TALIS and preparation of a second round. TALIS focuses on the learning environment in schools, sampling teachers and school principals and aims to provide cross-country data, indicators and analysis on factors influencing effective teaching and learning and the working environment of teachers.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Bulgaria, Estonia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Malta, Slovenia

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

The first round of TALIS was completed in 2009 with the first results reported in "Creating effective teaching and learning environments: First results from TALIS", published in June 2009. A selection of indicators was also published in Education at a Glance 2009. The work in 2010 will focus on further exploitation of the data from the first round of TALIS, including through the publication of thematic reports and also the preparation of a proposal for the next round of TALIS.

1.4 Health

Health Accounts

Purpose

To provide policy relevant, comparative data and analysis on health expenditure and financing, and to facilitate harmonisation across national health accounting practices. To provide data sources for research and to make country-specific health accounts data and analysis more widely available.

Objectives and outputs

The fourth Joint OECD, Eurostat and WHO System Health Accounts (SHA) data collection was successfully implemented in 2009. It has improved the availability and comparability of health expenditure data and also contributed to the improvement in health expenditure data published in OECD Health Data. A System of Health Accounts database has been developed as a component of the OECD Statistical Information System. National Health Accounts Experts and others interested in accessing health accounts data can now do so using OECD.Stat and SourceOECD.

Methodological developmental work has continued on a number of projects: Improving the Comparability and Availability of Private Health Expenditure; Development of Output based Health-Specific Purchasing Power Parities; Estimating Expenditure by Disease, Age and Gender; and Improving Estimates of Imports and Exports of Health services and Goods. The consultation process for the revision of the SHA manual has continued. The revision is a collaborative activity of the OECD, Eurostat and WHO.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia

Databases

OECD Health Data (Expenditure and Financing)
System of Health Accounts Database.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

In 2010, the fifth Joint OECD-Eurostat-WHO health accounts (SHA) data collection will take place. Previous improvements to the validation tools used both by the national compilers and the international organisations will continue to provide efficiency gains in the validation exercise and ultimately feed through to improved timeliness in dissemination of the data.

The 2010 questionnaire remains unchanged from previous years and it is envisaged that the questionnaire will continue to be based on the current version for at least the next few years with any changes kept to a minimum. As much as it is possible it is the aim to collect SHA Tables for preceding years (that is, from 2000 onwards).

In addition, an increasing number of OECD and non-OECD countries are expected to submit data to the 2010 collection which will improve overall coverage and data comparability. Combined with improved linkages to the OECD Health Data database, this will also lead to an increase in the quality of the expenditure and financing data in OECD Health Data 2010.

The main developments in the OECD Health Data collection in relation to expenditure and financing (Parts 5 & 6) are continuing improvements in the consistency between the 3 tables for total, public and private health expenditure and increased harmonisation with the Joint SHA data collection so that data are fully comparable.

The consultation process for the revision of the SHA manual will continue in 2010. A draft of the revised SHA Manual will be produced by the end of the year, as a collaborative project of the OECD, Eurostat and WHO.

The methodological projects such as Improving the Comparability and Availability of Private Health Expenditure; Development of Output based Health-Specific Purchasing Power Parities; Estimating Expenditure by Disease, Age and Gender; and Measurement of Health Volume Output have or will be completed. These projects as well as methodological work undertaken in the past such as Refinement of the SHA framework for health financing; Definitions and estimation of long-term care expenditure; and Incorporating Input, Output and Productivity Measurement into the SHA Framework will continue to feed into the revision of the SHA manual. The project on Improving Estimates of Imports and Exports of Health Care Goods and Services under the SHA will be completed in 2010.

Health Care Quality Indicators

Purpose

The purpose of the Health Care Quality Indicators (HCQI) Project is to develop a set of indicators that can be used to raise questions regarding quality of care across countries. They are reported as a regular chapter in Health at a Glance since 2007.

Objectives and outputs

The HCQI Project goals in 2010 are: to review and refine existing quality of care indicators in preparation for the 2010-11 HCQI Data Collection to commence in November 2010; and to undertake data analysis to support research work in relation to the Health Ministerial Meeting in October 2010 and the ongoing priorities of the HCQI Project.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Cyprus, Latvia, Singapore

Databases

HCQI Data Collection

Main Developments for 2010

Data management:

Ongoing consideration of StatWorks during 2010.

Health Data

Purpose

To provide policy makers and health researchers with a wide range of statistics on health and health systems to allow comparative analysis of different aspects of the performance of health systems. The central parts of the database include data on health care resources, their utilisation, expenditure and financing. This is complemented by a broader range of data on health status, lifestyle, and other data on the socio-economic environment of health systems in OECD countries, in order to provide data on the context of health systems for policy analysis. Developmental work is also under way to obtain comparable data on disparities in health status and health care access and use, as well as on the quality of health care. Some of these data will be gradually included in OECD Health Data to fill important gaps in measuring the performance of health systems.

Objectives and outputs

Progress was achieved in 2009 in improving the availability and comparability of key indicators of health status and health systems that are reported in the publication Health at a Glance 2009.

The activity is co-ordinated with Eurostat, WHO Geneva and WHO Europe to reduce the duplication of work and promote the harmonisation of international data collection and reporting. Developmental work carried out in 2009 will lead to a new joint data collection between the OECD, Eurostat and WHO Europe on non-monetary health care statistics in 2010.

Databases

OECD Health Data 2010

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Improving the availability and comparability of data on non-medical determinants of health, in particular on nutrition and overweight/obesity problems. Introducing a new joint OECD/Eurostat/WHO Europe data collection on non-monetary health care statistics (including both human resources in health and physical/technical resources). Assessing the feasibility of filling data gaps on the occurrence of selected chronic diseases, working in collaboration with other international organisations (the focus will be to try to gather incidence and prevalence data on ischaemic heart disease, stroke and asthma, to complement the data currently reported on cancer incidence, diabetes prevalence and HIV/AIDS incidence).

1.5 Income and consumption

Revision of the Canberra Handbook on the Measurement of Household Income

Purpose

To revise the 2005 Handbook on the Measurement of Household Income, in the light of evidence from new research and statistical conventions.

Objectives and outputs

Work started in the fall of 2009, and will continue until early 2011. A revised Table of Contents of the report has been agreed, and tasks have been assigned to various participants. The OECD took the lead in developing a survey of country practices to assess the robustness of existing surveys and definitions.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

A first draft of the revised handbook should become available by late 2010

1.6 Social protection

Social Expenditure

Purpose

The database has been developed to monitor trends in aggregate social expenditure as well as changes in its composition. SOCX includes historical series from 1980 on public and mandatory private social expenditure at programme level classified under the major social policy areas.

Objectives and outputs

Social Expenditure Database: data collection (in co-operation with Eurostat for EU countries) and dissemination on the internet www.oecd.org/els/social/expenditure of expenditure data, programme by programme, grouped in the main expenditure categories, from 1980 to 2003.

SOCX (2008) came out in November 2008, including net (after taxes) and voluntary social spending.

Databases

Social expenditures

Main Developments for 2010

Data collection:

Data update every other year. 2006 and 2007 will be collected in first semester of 2010.

1.10 Political and other community activities

Collection of data on the enforcement of the OECD Anti-Corruption Convention since its entry into force

Purpose

The purpose of this activity is to show, in a quantified way, how the OECD Anti-Corruption Convention has been enforced by its 38 Parties since its entry into force ten years ago.

Objectives and outputs

A first round of collection of enforcement data has been carried out by the Anti-Corruption Division and discussions on the data so far collected have taken place before the Working Group on Bribery. The Anti-Corruption Division is currently finalising its analysis of the data so far collected as well as refining, where needed, certain data, in order to prepare a proposal of presentation and format of the data, for discussion at the March 2010 meeting of the Working Group on Bribery. The objective is to have an agreement of the Working Group on a publication at the March meeting, with the hope to publish the data in the spring 2010.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Estonia, Israel, Slovenia, South Africa.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

The Anti-Corruption Division expects to finalise the collection of data and make a proposal of presentation and format of the data for the discussion by the Working Group on Bribery at the March 2010 meeting, with the objective to publish data in the spring 2010.

2. Economic Statistics (OECD)

2.1 Macroeconomic statistics

STAN Database for Industrial Analysis

Purpose

To provide a comprehensive database tool for cross-country analyses of industrial performance (competitiveness, productivity etc.) and structural change at a relatively detailed level of activity.

Objectives and outputs

The STAN database for industrial analysis provides analysts and researchers with a comprehensive tool for analysing industrial performance at a

relatively detailed level of activity across countries. It includes annual measures of output, labour input, investment and international trade which allow users to construct a wide range of indicators to focus on areas such as productivity growth, competitiveness and general structural change. The industry list provides sufficient detail to enable users to highlight high-technology sectors and is compatible with those used in related OECD databases.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Estonia, Israel, Slovenia

Databases

Database for Industrial Analysis (STAN)

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Inclusion of certain OECD Accession countries in STAN (e.g. Estonia, Israel and Slovenia). Complete preparations for implementation of ISIC Rev. 4. Comprehensive STAN documentation in form of STI Working Paper.

Business Tendency and Consumer Opinion Surveys

Purpose

To collect and disseminate business tendency and consumer opinion survey data for OECD member countries and selected non-member economies. To promote wider use of business tendency and consumer opinion surveys in OECD member countries and selected non-member economies.

To develop international statistical standards and to encourage scientific research in this field of statistics.

Objectives and outputs

This activity involves the ongoing collection and publication of an extensive range of business tendency and consumer opinion survey data and related metadata from OECD member countries and the BRIICS.

The survey data are published in the OECD's monthly Main Economic Indicators (MEI). Data collection is co-ordinated with the European Commission, with the OECD taking primary responsibility for data collection from national sources only for non-EU OECD member countries and the BRIICS.

During the year further work was undertaken on the portal which has been developed to provide a focus / hub for information relating to business tendency and consumer opinion surveys. The website includes links to existing international guidelines and recommendations, questionnaires used by national institutes, summary metadata describing key elements of national surveys, selected country data, selected best practice, key terminology.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa

Databases

MEI_BTS_COS

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Implementation of the work plan arising out of the joint European Commission OECD workshop on business tendency and consumer opinion surveys and composite indicators held in Brussels in November 2009. The plan entails developments in a number of specific areas, namely: the evolution of standards to promote greater harmonisation of outputs produced by different countries; development of standards for the presentation of metadata resulting in greater transparency; procedures for improving response rates; expansion of survey coverage into the service sector; etc. Work in 2010 will entail continued collection and dissemination of metadata from non-EU and BRIICS national institutes which will complement similar methodological information collected by the European Commission for EU countries. Publication of non-seasonally adjusted series.

Competitiveness Indicators

Purpose

To provide harmonised tools for OECD member countries to assess and monitor the level and the progress of their competitiveness positions.

Objectives and outputs

- To identify competitiveness framework
- To identify a list of indicators can be included in the competitiveness framework and to prepare the database for the variables
- To prepare a competitiveness compendium

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

New activity in 2010.

Cyclical Indicators

Purpose

To compile and disseminate the OECD cyclical indicators for OECD member countries and (in future) for the BRICS NMEs + Indonesia, which help analysts to assess the cyclical phase of the OECD economies and forecast its future development.
To encourage scientific research in this field.

Objectives and outputs

OECD Composite Leading Indicators (CLI) are published in the monthly Main Economic Indicators publication and in a monthly press release. The quality of existing CLIs is monitored and enhanced on an on-going basis, including the expansion of country coverage for both OECD member and non-member countries, and the development of new tools in the research software for cyclical analysis and composite indicators. Main achievements in 2009 were the implementation of the review to move towards a different de-trending and smoothing method - the double Hodrick-Prescott (HP)-filter.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

MEI_CLI

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Development of the OECD MEI Business Cycle Analysis Database. Update CLIs for selected OECD member countries.

Data collection:

Inclusion of additional series required for the compilation of CLIs for Brazil, China, India, Russian Federation and South Africa and for OECD member as a result of on-going review of CLI component series for each country.

Data management:

Incorporation of more detailed metadata on CLI compilation methodology in MetaStore.

Main Economic Indicators

Purpose

The OECD's Main Economic Indicator (MEI) database provides a wide range of short-term economic indicators (and associated methodological information) for OECD member and non-countries to meet the on-going requirements of a number of internal OECD users. The activity is also involved in the development of new international standards and the formulation of guidelines for best practice for short-term statistics.

Objectives and outputs

Maintaining the Main Economic Indicators (MEI) database, which contains monthly and quarterly statistics (and associated statistical methodological information) for the 30 OECD member and for the non-member economies (Brazil, Chile, China, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia and South Africa) on a wide variety of economic indicators for use by economic analysts, policy makers and business.

Indicators in the MEI database include: quarterly national accounts, industrial production, composite leading indicators, business tendency and consumer opinion surveys, retail trade, consumer and producer prices, hourly earnings, employment/unemployment, interest rates, monetary aggregates, exchange rates, international trade and balance of payments.

There is an on-going process of review to revise the contents of the database in order to maximise the relevance of the database for short-term economic analysis, for example, through the inclusion of new indicators reflecting new areas of analysis and policy making. Enlarging coverage also entails working with other international organisations such as IMF, ILO, ECB and Eurostat in the development of effective international standards for the presentation of statistical methodological information (metadata), and increasing the coverage and quality of statistical metadata, whilst at the same time minimising the reporting burden of member countries.

Methodological work is carried out through the informal gathering of Short-term Economic Statistics Experts that meet as and when issues arise, usually annually, and other related fora for example via the ECB or Eurostat and the joint forum on business tendency and consumer opinion surveys established with the European Commission.

In addition to the ongoing publication of MEI, the main achievements in 2009 included: the completion of the work of a task-force to provide recommendations on revisions analysis and policy - including the development of an on-line revisions analysis tool; improvements made to the CLI compilation system and underlying methodology; a review of the overall publication and database to improve efficiencies in their production and to create a much more generic, and so user-friendly, format to the publication; the introduction of Key Economic Indicators to OECD.Stat; and a more general review of the presentation of all MEI indicators on OECD.Stat in line with PAC branded-view requirements.

Further information on these achievements are available in the reports of the seven short-term economic statistics domains that feed into the MEI (balance of payments, business tendency and consumer opinion surveys, cyclical indicators, financial indicators, labour force statistics, prices, production and sales).

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Chile, China, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa.

Databases

Main Economic Indicators (MEI).

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

To continue the revised publication process making for a more efficient production process.

To continue to review the database, identifying series no longer relevant and new important series.

To carry out a reorganisational restructuring of work processes within the MEI team to identify further efficiencies and synergies: bring together web-queries within a coordinated management system; harmonising seasonal adjustment procedures; and introducing stand-alone QA-tools based on creating composite indicators, such as unit labour costs for example, for diagnostic purposes.

Data collection:

On-going processes to improve the efficiency and timeliness of data capture processes.

There will also be expanded use of data from Eurostat's NewCronos database and the IMF's IFS. Greater efforts will also be made to implement data and metadata exchange standards developed under the SDMX initiative.

Real-time and Revisions Database

Purpose

To make freely available on the OECD website a "real-time" database with associated revisions analysis of key short-term economic statistics derived from historically published monthly snapshots of the OECD Main Economic Indicators database.

Objectives and outputs

The concept of a real time database is to provide an information set of short-term economic statistics that would have been available to analysts at a specific point in time for the purpose of testing the likely effectiveness of econometric models in real-time. It also provides the opportunity to perform revisions analysis - i.e. to study the magnitude and direction of subsequent revisions to published statistics. A database containing MEI vintage from 1999 was developed and published on the OECD website in 2006.

The portal also provides a broader context on the issue of revisions. This primarily take the form of the revisions framework (outlining the reasons for data revision) formulated by the IMF and of the recommendations published in the OECD "Data and Metadata Reporting and Presentation Handbook".

Updated revisions analysis of GDP and a comparison of revisions between seasonally adjusted and raw series were performed in 2007 and presented at the STESWP and National Accounts working parties, and also at a number of international conferences where the database was also promoted.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

No major changes.

Short-term Economic Statistics Timeliness Framework

Purpose

To make available a structured collection of documentation on a range of methodological and operational good practices currently used by national statistical organisations for improving timeliness, reducing costs or improving accuracy in the production of short-term economic statistics from business surveys and/or administrative sources. It is presented on the OECD web site as a user friendly web interface and is updated annually.

Objectives and outputs

The Short-Term Timeliness Framework is a structured collection of documentation on a range of methodological and operational good practices currently used by national statistical organisations for improving timeliness, reducing costs or improving accuracy in the production of short-term economic statistics from business surveys and/or administrative sources.

The process for producing short-term economic statistics is divided into broad categories. For each of them a range of techniques that can be applied to improve timeliness or reduce costs is described. The links to access more detailed information on these techniques, based on the research undertaken in developing the framework, are made available. The documentation referenced in the framework was collected from statistical organisations, statistical journals and proceedings from statistical conferences by a taskforce of the OECD Short Term Economic Statistics Working Party (STESWP). The content also covers methods to improve the quality of short-term economic statistics.

The current activity is to continue to maintain the framework with new material which was done in 2007. Links were also made with the newly establish Administrative Data Frameworks.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

No major changes.

Going for Growth Structural Policy Indicators

Purpose

Used to benchmark structural economic policy settings in the context of the Going for Growth exercise.

Objectives and outputs

Updated indicators in the context of Going for Growth 2010. Partly enlarged their scope as a first step to more fully integrating the enhanced engagement countries.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, South Africa

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Partial enlargement of the scope of indicators to enhanced engagement countries, and policy issues of special relevance to these countries. Also, updating and extension of indicators for OECD member countries.

Indicators of Product Market Regulation (PMR) database

Purpose

The OECD has developed a range of indicators of product market regulation at both the economy-wide and sectoral levels to measure the extent to which policy settings promote or inhibit competition in areas of the product market where competition is viable.

Objectives and outputs

Revision of the PMR indicator integrating previously separate sectoral indications and thus embodying more extensive information on sector-specific regulation

Extension of coverage of integrated PMRs to candidate countries for accession and selected non-member countries.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Croatia, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa, Ukraine
Databases

Integrated PMR indicator (1998, 2003, 2008)

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Extension of coverage of integrated PMRs to India, South Africa and Indonesia.

Revisions to the professional services indicator.

Data collection:

Extension of coverage of integrated PMRs to India, South Africa and Indonesia.

Revisions to the professional services sub-indicator

2.2 Economic accounts

Annual National Accounts

Purpose

To provide, on an internationally comparable basis, a timely update of annual national accounts data to internal and external users for analytical purposes.

To provide a forum of international exchange on national accounts standards, in order to improve the relevance of SNA 93 and enhance international comparability.

Objectives and outputs

The annual national accounts database (SNA) presents a consistent set of data mainly compiled on the basis of the 1993 System of National Accounts. It contains data from 1970 whenever possible for OECD member countries.

The paper and electronic publications contain a wide selection of accounts: Main aggregates (GDP by expenditure, GDP by kind of activity, GDP by income and disposable income, saving and net lending), detailed breakdown by kind of activity for gross value added (at current and constant prices), components of value added, and gross fixed capital formation and employment. It also includes final consumption expenditure of households by purpose and simplified accounts for general government. Detailed accounts by institutional sectors are only available on the electronic publications. The publications also give comparative tables based on exchange rates and comparative tables based on purchasing power parities for OECD member countries and for the following groups: OECD, OECD-Europe and the European Union as well as volume and price indices for GDP aggregates. Data are made available to member country government agencies on OLISnet thanks to OECD.Stat and to the public through dissemination in paper publication, CD-ROM, SourceOECD, OECD.Stat and tables freely available on Internet.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Chile, Estonia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia.

Databases

Annual National Accounts (ANA).

Economics Department Analytical Data Base (ADB)

Purpose

Management, co-ordination and provision of statistical data sets in support of Economics Department work described under Theme 1 (Economic Growth, Stability and Structural Adjustment). Primarily as input to the Economic Outlook assessment process, ensure timely and consistent updating of the body of largely macroeconomic statistics and calculation of subsidiary concepts necessary for corresponding analytical activities. Checking methodological soundness and consistency of data definitions against the analytical needs of the Department and in particular Country Desks. Development and maintenance of related programmes, definitions and procedures and associated metadata systems in support of analytical users.

Objectives and outputs

Maintains relevant Analytical Data Bank in support of relevant needs of ECO's macro analytical work, notably with respect to the data needs of the OECD Economic Outlook. In conjunction with STD and other statistical groups, co-ordinates, manages and extracts the relevant annual and quarterly data sets from available sources within the OECD (mostly STD), National Administrations and related publications. The primary database covers a range of statistical concepts relevant, in particular, to the assessment of the world's economic situation and developments in member country economies. These include a wide range of national accounts, wage, price and labour force, fiscal and financial accounts, exchange rates, international trade and balance of payments concepts reported on a variety of frequencies. Basic definitions and requirements are those of the economists in the Policy and Country Studies branches. The relevant statistics are used routinely in the analysis incorporated in documents for the Economic Policy and Economic Development Review Committees and are reported as supporting material in the corresponding OECD publications - the twice yearly OECD Economic Outlook and the OECD Country Survey series. The Economic Outlook data set is also disseminated as an OECD data product.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Chile, China, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa.

Databases

Economics Department Analytical Database

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Main changes in content relate to the progressive inclusion of relevant statistics for the Accession and Enhanced Engagement countries over the coming year. Main technical changes in the past and coming year relate to the continuing migration to the ADB to ECO's time series data management system, incorporating direct links to in-house source data bases and the MetaStore system, the integration of Economic Outlook publications data base within the OECD.Stat system and the incorporation of relevant production metadata within MetaStore for internal and external use.

Data management:

Development of metadata link based HELP system within data management system, revisions to control and access rights for users outside of ECO.

Financial Accounts

Purpose

To provide unique data sets of harmonised data on financial accounts and financial balance sheets of OECD countries, according to SNA 1993, to analysts and policy makers.

Objectives and outputs

This activity mainly focuses on the collection of comparable quantitative and qualitative information on financial transactions carried out and on financial stocks held by institutional sectors of the economy in the OECD member countries.

The main objectives are to improve the quantity and the quality of information on OECD financial accounts (transmission of timely, reliable and consistent data) and to disseminate comparable tables on financial accounts (transactions) and financial balance sheets (stocks).

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Chile, Estonia, Slovenia.

Databases

Financial Accounts (ANA).

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

The database on Financial Accounts and Financial Balance Sheets will continue to be improved. All OECD countries are now covered. For some countries however, the sectoral coverage has still to be extended.

Data for Russia as well as complements to data received from Chile and Israel will continue to be requested.

Two databases complete the Financial balance sheets for two specific sectors:

- **HOUSEHOLDS:** the coverage of financial assets regarding this sector, which include a more precise classification of instruments than in the SNA, will continue to be improved; a few non-financial assets might be added to the current list; on the liability side, the new list of items, which was requested for the first time in 2009, will be amended to be better in line with the data availability in countries.
- **INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS:** the coverage of data regarding the collection of Institutional Investors' assets will continue to be improved mainly for sectors; additional information by currency as well as a few liabilities might be requested for the first time in 2010.

Detailed methodological information relating to the datasets on Household assets and liabilities, and to Institutional Investor assets, requested in 2009, as well as the information previously received for Financial accounts and Financial balance sheets should be included in MetaStore.

Data collection:

No changes in the data collection are planned in 2010.

Historical data built/collected in the framework of WPFS activities will be added to the database as soon as countries sent them. Data for Russia will be once more requested and integrated (if provided) in the OECD databases and the complement of data which are still missing for Chile and Israel will continue to be requested. The usefulness of a quarterly data collection has been agreed by the WPFS at its 2009 meeting. Quarterly data might be collected in 2010 if resources permit. Moreover, according to the conclusions of the 2009 WPFS meeting, financial indicators based on financial accounts and balance sheets will be calculated and published. Developments in the ANA database will be necessary.

Data management:

The Quality Review of the Financial Accounts and Financial Balance Sheet is being finalised: it proposes the calculation of financial indicators based on these datasets which should be published in a new volume (the name is still to be determined: 'Financial at a glance') when possible.

General Government National Accounts

Purpose

To provide, on an internationally comparable basis, a timely update of annual national accounts data for the sector of general government and sub-sectors to internal and external users. This covers detailed revenues and detailed expenditures by function of general government and subsectors.

To provide a forum for international exchange on national accounts and public finance standards in order to improve the relevance of SNA 93 and enhance international comparability of major Public finance indicators.

Objectives and outputs

The project on general government national accounts began in September 2003. There are three objectives of the project: (1) improve the transmission to and dissemination by the OECD of timely and detailed data on general government; (2) enhance the comparability of the major aggregate results for general government such as general government deficit/surplus and/or general government debt.

Data are made available to member country government agencies on OLISnet thanks to OECD.Stat and to the public through dissemination in OECD.Stat and tables freely available on Internet.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Chile, Estonia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia.

Databases

ANA - SNA

Annual National Accounts (ANA).

Household Assets and Liabilities

Purpose

This data collection aims at better knowing the households' behaviour vis-à-vis risks and enables studies on the distribution of households' wealth. It refers to the SNA sector S14 - Households.

An additional questionnaire is sent yearly to OECD countries in parallel with the OECD/Eurostat joint questionnaire on Financial Accounts.

Objectives and outputs

Updating of the database.

Extension of the database to additional countries.

Better coverage of the financial and non-financial assets.

Extension of the database to detailed liabilities on loans.

Non-member countries involved in the activity

Estonia, Israel, Slovenia

Databases

Household Assets and Liabilities.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

It is expected to further improve the coverage (countries and assets) of the database.

The list of households' liabilities will be revised so that countries can better reply to the new request begun in 2009.

Some new non-financial assets might be added to the current list according to the reply to the questions asked to countries following decisions taken at the 2009 WPFS meeting.

The accession countries which have not yet provided data (or only part of it) will be reminded to provide OECD with household data.

Data collection:

Modifications in the list of liabilities.

Possible addition of non-financial assets to the current list.

According to conclusions of the 2010 WPFS meeting, it might also be envisaged to collect quarterly data.

Data management:

The methodological information currently available in WORD documents might be stored in MetaStore using links to these documents, when resources permit.

Input-Output

Purpose

To provide a comprehensive database for cross country analyses of industrial structures, the interrelationships between consumers and producers, and the interactions between countries (e.g. as regards outsourcing and trade flows).

Objectives and outputs

The current OECD input-output database is based on detailed national accounts estimates of economic activity and interrelationships within economies. The database is based on an ISIC Rev.3 and is consistent with the latest system of national accounts (SNA93). Data for 30 OECD countries and 11 non-member countries are currently available, with latest data for many countries referring to 2005 with tables also available for most countries for 2000 or nearest year and for the mid-1990s.

In 2008, efforts were focused on analytical studies in areas such as productivity and globalisation, particularly by linking national harmonised I-O tables with bilateral trade to produce inter-country I-O tables. This required significant work on adjusting trade data to take account of re-exports, valuation, reporting thresholds, confidential data, etc.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa.

Databases

Input-Output

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

New and revised tables based around the year 2005 to be released in 2010. Country coverage to be expanded to include more Asian countries and, if possible, to complete the coverage of G20.

Institutional Investors' assets

Purpose

This data collection integrated in the framework of the SNA cover detailed assets (including a breakdown of resident/non resident data) for a number of institutional investors (more detailed than in the SNA93). Its aim is to have more detailed information on the activities of the institutional investors (not covered by the SNA) in OECD Member countries.

An additional questionnaire is sent yearly to OECD countries in parallel with the OECD/Eurostat joint questionnaire on Financial Accounts.

Objectives and outputs

the database has been updated up to 2008.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Chile, Estonia, Israel, Slovenia.

Databases

Institutional Investors' assets.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Update and improvement of the coverage.

The data relating to Russia will be once again requested, while other accession countries will be further improved so that the database contains relevant information regarding the five accession countries.

According to decisions taken at the 2009 WPFS meeting, a questionnaire has been sent to countries to have their agreement for an extension of the database to assets by currency and to a few liabilities.

Data collection:

Improved coverage of the database.

It might be envisaged to add some assets and liabilities in the 2010 questionnaire as well as to request information on more detailed investors (such as hedge funds and SPVs).

According to conclusions of the 2010 WPFS meeting, it might also be envisaged to collect quarterly data.

Data management:

The methodological information currently available in WORD documents might be stored in MetaStore using links to these documents, when resources permit.

National Accounts for Non-member Economies

Purpose

To cooperate with BRIICS countries and incorporate these countries into the standard OECD data collection and dissemination program. While Russia is incorporated in the Quarterly National Accounts database, the remaining five non-member countries are included in the Main Economic Indicators (MEI) database. To cooperate with BRIICS countries (especially China) in the discussion and implementation of the 1993 System of National Accounts (SNA 93) and thus to improve the reliability and comparability of their national accounts. This work is coordinated with the technical cooperation and development programmes of other international organisations, and joint activities are common.

Objectives and outputs

The objective is to advance common understanding of national accounts methods and to improve the quality of national accounts data where necessary. A specific focus of this work, in particular with South East European countries, is the exhaustiveness of GDP measures and the treatment of the Non-observed economy. Co-operation with China covers a broad spectrum of national accounts issues, and will extend in 2008 with the participation of China in the standard OECD data collection/dissemination process. Cooperation with China for a bilingual version of the manual "Understanding national accounts" is also envisaged. The cooperation mostly takes the form of workshops attended by the countries' national accountants, and bilateral technical consultancies in the countries. The workshops are often held jointly with other agencies. Workshop papers, reports and methodological descriptions are made available on the OECD website.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

National accounts and prices for non-member countries.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

To incorporate China into the Quarterly National Accounts database.

Productivity/Capital Services

Purpose

Four OECD Directorates have co-operated to produce a data set for productivity measures, a widely-used indicator of economic performance. The purpose of this activity is to bring together, in one place, the results of this work and make available various productivity measures as well as relevant methodological information and research. The series on capital services, multi-factor productivity (MFP) and GDP per hour worked are a standard input into the Economic Department's estimate of potential output.

Objectives and outputs

Labour productivity indices for 30 countries and a set of capital services and multi-factor productivity measures for 20 countries are regularly updated and are available on OECD.Stat. Recent methodological developments included the finalisation of the revised manual on measuring capital and the development of MFP by industry in the OECD STAN (STructural ANalysis) Database.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

International organisation.

Databases

Productivity/capital services database.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

In 2010, the database will continue to be updated regularly, with the aim to increase the number of available countries, and MFP by industry statistics related to the development of OECD STAN STructural ANalysis Database will be disseminated. Methodological developments will concern both productivity indicators at the total economy level and MFP estimates by industry.

Quarterly National Accounts

Purpose

To provide a real time update of member countries' sets of quarterly national accounts to internal users, mainly the OECD Economics

Department. Quarterly national accounts constitute a significant input into the OECD's macro-economic modelling and forecasting work. To provide on a daily basis to external users a selection of key time series from countries' quarterly national accounts, some area totals and a consistent set of volume and price indices, for analytical purposes.

Objectives and outputs

The OECD's quarterly national accounts (QNA) database presents data collected from countries on the basis of countries' own definitions and classifications as well as of a standardised questionnaire. It contains, as from 1960 whenever possible, a wide selection of the accounts produced by the 30 member countries covering accounts at the level of the overall economy and some current and capital accounts for the institutional sectors. Work is concentrated on producing relevant, reliable, consistent, comparable and timely quarterly national accounts for member countries.

The QNA paper and electronic publications contain a selection of the accounts most widely used for economic analysis: GDP - expenditure and output approaches (current prices and volume estimates), GDP income approach (current prices), Saving and net lending (current prices), Gross fixed capital formation (current prices and volume estimates) broken down separately by type of asset and by institutional sector, Disposable income and Real disposable income components, Population and Employment, Employment by industry, Household final consumption expenditure (current prices and volume estimates) by durability and by purpose, Institutional sector accounts and specific accounts for some countries.

New QNA data have been implemented in the database for the five accession countries: Chile, Estonia, Israel, the Russian Federation and Slovenia.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Chile, China, Estonia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia

Databases

Quarterly National Accounts (QNA)

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Implement changes made by countries to the structure of their QNA and extend the coverage of the database by the inclusion of new accounts provided by countries.

Follow new features of European Quarterly National Accounts (quarterly institutional sector accounts, flash estimates, ...).

Follow the improvements made by the NBS of China in regards to QNA data.

Data collection:

Extension of the statistical content (new accounts, new sets of chained volume estimates, new seasonally adjusted series), the country coverage (new accession countries) and the time coverage (historical series) to take account of the development of QNA made in countries.

Sending of the standard questionnaire for quarterly national accounts and quarterly sector accounts data collection to non-EU countries.

2.3 Business statistics

Business Statistics and Entrepreneurship

Purpose

i) To provide official annual data for detailed industrial and service sectors (at the 4 digit ISIC level), consistent and relevant for international comparison in order to meet policy makers' and analysts' needs for structural business statistics for detailed economic sectors. Three databases are currently maintained.

ii) To develop a program of internationally-comparable indicators of entrepreneurship, its determinants and its impacts, to inform policy-analysis and policy-making. This activity is called Entrepreneurship Indicators Program (EIP).

Objectives and outputs

i) The databases on structural business statistics (SSIS) and (BSC), updated through a joint questionnaire with UNIDO, contain annual data on core economic variables, relating to both industry and services, at a very detailed level of ISIC revision 3 (up to the 4th digit level). They cover such variables as production, value added, investment, number of enterprises, employment, wages and salaries, and hours worked. Statistics are derived mainly from structural business surveys, censuses and administrative sources.

The BSC database contains this information broken down by enterprise size class.

Business Demography Indicators are now being collected formally and include indicators of birth, death and survival rates and numbers of high growth firms - all based on common concepts developed in the Eurostat-OECD Manual on Business Demography Statistics published in 2007. In 2009, the coverage of Business Demography Statistics was improved in relation with the OECD-Eurostat Entrepreneurship Indicators Project. A Structural and Demographic Business Statistics Publication (i.e. with information from SSIS, BSC and BD) will be issued in the beginning of 2010.

ii) A major achievement of the EIP was the publication in November 2009 of the report "Measuring entrepreneurship: A collection of indicators". The geographical coverage has been extended from 18 countries in 2008 to 23 countries in 2009. The 2009 publication extends the range of indicators significantly by calculating more detailed indicators (by industry and by size class), but also by presenting several indicators of entrepreneurial determinants. The publication also presents a first set of timely indicators for a subset of countries, and the EIP plans further research on this topic.

The fifth meeting of the Entrepreneurship Indicators Steering Group was held in June 2009, following a workshop jointly organised by the Kauffman Foundation and the EIP to discuss possible indicators on entrepreneurial finance to be included among the determinants indicators. In addition to the Steering Group, the Secretariat has developed an EIP Network so that additional countries and organisations may remain abreast of the Entrepreneurship Indicators work and participate on an ad hoc basis.

The EIP was presented in several fora and meetings.

Finally, an objective for 2010 is the preparation of a publication presenting indicators from both SDBS and the EIP.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Bulgaria, Estonia, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovenia.

Databases

SDBS - Business Demography Indicators

SDBS - Structural Business Statistics.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Expected improvements to SBS statistics in 2010 include the extension of the country coverage in the collection of comparable business demography statistics.

Other entrepreneurship indicators will be developed and added.

Data collection:

Extension of the country coverage in the collection of entrepreneurship statistics is expected. It is also expected that other entrepreneurship indicators will be identified and added.

Foreign Affiliates in Services

Purpose

To give detailed data on the role played by multinationals in the services sectors of the OECD countries, which concerns inward and outward foreign direct investment.

Objectives and outputs

The database on Foreign Affiliates Trade in Services covers the following variables: number of enterprises, turnover, value added, employment, personnel costs, investments, exports and imports, R&D expenditure and R&D personnel, for inward and outward activities of multinational firms. Data on the activity of parent companies are also requested.

A publication (Indicators of Economic Globalisation) is prepared in 2010, according to the guidelines contained in the Handbook on Economic Globalisation Indicators.

Databases

Foreign Affiliates Trade in Services Database (FATS).

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

No major changes.

Micro-data

Purpose

To develop a large scale database of firm-level information, comparable across countries and industries. The database will contain a broad range of firm-level data, including employment, sales, labour costs, assets, etc., as well as information on the capital structure of firms.

This micro-database aims to complement existing OECD databases on industry and services (SBS, STAN, etc.).

Objectives and outputs

The micro-database is built on the ORBIS database of Bureau Van Dijk covering almost 44 million companies across different industries and countries over several years. This database collects information on a broad range of financial and industrial information at the firm-level. Given that the structure of the original database is not meant to serve research purposes, data is being extracted in a format suitable for analytical work. In addition, a thorough process of data cleaning and double checking is being undertaken to guarantee/increase the quality of the data. In order to assess the coverage of the original database across industries and countries, existing databases will be used to assess the representativeness of the data.

The database is designed to support the analytical activities of different OECD directorates.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Asia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Ecuador, Estonia, Europe, Georgia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Other, Peru, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela.

Databases

SDBS - Structural Business Statistics.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

-Extension of the OECD Orbis database to all countries and ownership data.

-Analysis of the representativeness of ORBIS data compared to official micro-data available. This will permit to highlight the value added of the new database.

Data collection:

More comparable information is expected on business demography and Entrepreneurship statistics, especially on the basis of the new Eurostat-OECD manual on Business Demography Statistics.

Production and Sales Indicators

Purpose

To provide short-term economic indicators of production, sales, orders, work started and in progress and stocks (and associated methodological information) for OECD member countries and selected large emerging non-member economies to meet the on-going requirements of a number of internal OECD users.

To develop new international standards and the formulation of guidelines for best practice for short-term statistics.

Objectives and outputs

All the subjects under the Production and sales are classified under the following six top headings: Production, Sales, Orders, Work started, Work in progress, Stocks. Within each heading, indicators are further classified according to economic activities.

A key achievement was the endorsement by CSTAT of the "Compilation Manual for the Index of Services Production" (ISP) produced through the Short-Term Economic Statistics Working Party (STESWP). Application of this manual was also applied to a number of countries.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

MEI_REAL

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

A key issue will be to expand the range of services output indicators contained in the MEI database and presenting analysis of this data to STESWP. Discussions would focus on the relative quality of data across countries and the key uses that can be made from it. In this regard, it will be important to engage the Central Banking Community.

2.4.1 Agriculture, forestry, fisheries

Agricultural Outlook

Purpose

To provide an annual update of statistical information and projections by country for OECD members, the OECD area, selected non-member countries, other developing and least developed countries and regional and world aggregates, of supply and use balances for cereals, oilseeds, biofuels, sugar, meats and dairy products 2019.

Objectives and outputs

To maintain a database with detailed supply and use information for most temperate zone agricultural commodities. The tables provide detailed information for production, consumption, trade, stocks and prices in OECD countries and a large number of other countries including China, Argentina, Brazil, India, South Africa, Russia and other CIS independent states and many smaller countries and regions in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Most series cover the period from 1970 to the most current year and include updated annual projections for up to ten years in the future.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Brazil, China, Other.

Databases

The Agricultural Commodities Database.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

The main change in 2010 is a full review of the parameters, coefficients and equations of the Aglink-Cosimo model used to generate the long term projections of temperate zone agricultural markets. The model increased coverage of oilseeds commodities.

Producer and Consumer Support Estimates in Emerging Economies

Purpose

To collect and prepare data for estimation of support to agriculture (based on indicators of Producer and Consumer Support Estimates, PSE/CSE) and for key macroeconomic and agricultural indicators, for papers, publications, meetings of the Global Forum on Agriculture and for various technical meetings in 2010 and 2011.

Objectives and outputs

To update basic agricultural data for emerging economies for which there has been an OECD review of agricultural policies. To provide a set of internationally comparable estimates of support to agriculture (the PSE/CSE database) for these countries applying the same methodology used for OECD members. The PSE database is used by the governments of both OECD member and non-member countries, international organisations, such as IMF and WTO, as well as researchers and universities. It is of particular interest in the context of the OECD accession and enhanced engagement initiatives.

Non-member countries involved in the activity

Brazil, Chile, China, India, Israel, Russian Federation, South Africa, Ukraine.

Databases

Measuring support to agriculture in emerging economies.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Following the release of the Reviews of Agricultural Policies in Brazil, Chile, China, Israel and South Africa, PSE databases have been created for these countries. These databases are updated regularly, together with the existing databases for Russia and Ukraine and made available in a Monitoring publication every other year and through the OECD internet web site.

Data collection:

Israel will be included.

Producer and Consumer Support Estimates in OECD Countries

Purpose

To collect, process, evaluate and publish data on support to agriculture in OECD countries. The activity also provides staff with a database for various research and analysis activities of the Directorate. This is a joint activity between the "Agricultural Policies and Environment" and the "Policies and Trade in Agriculture" Divisions of the Trade and Agriculture Directorate.

Objectives and outputs

To update the Producer and Consumer Support Estimate annual database and to calculate the various indicators of support to agriculture. The data are used to evaluate agricultural and other policies in OECD countries, mainly in the annual Agricultural Policies in OECD Countries Report, which is reviewed and approved by the Working Party on Agricultural Policies and Markets.

The data collected and the method used to calculate the indicators of support are reviewed both internally and externally by the Working Party on Agricultural Policies and Markets, on an annual basis. These review processes improve the data quality as well as the methodology used in the calculations.

In this context, a new classification of the component parts of the support estimates, to reflect changing policy priorities and policy measures implemented in OECD countries, has been implemented in the 2007 Agricultural Policies in OECD countries Monitoring and Evaluation report. The database has been remodelled to account for this change in the classification of agricultural policies as agreed with OECD countries.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Cyprus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Slovenia.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

No major changes.

Review of Fisheries in OECD Countries - 2010

Purpose

To collect and present data for the publication Review of Fisheries. To provide staff, and other potential users, with a database for research and analysis purposes. The latter applies to the Policy Reviews as well as other activities of the Division. To provide other Directorates with data on fisheries resources.

Objectives and outputs

The principal purpose is to collect and make available data on a consistent basis among member countries (and observers) of statistics relevant to fisheries i.e. landings (harvest) and processing, fleet, fishers, employment, trade (via the ITS database), aquaculture and government financial transfers. The data are used nationally, principally for reporting purposes and internationally (e.g. OECD), for analytical purposes. Data also serve as reference for other international organisations and as a means for cross-checking and reconciling information from national sources.

Questionnaires and tables are sent (annually) to national correspondents following discussion and approval by the Committee for Fisheries. Data

are collected and disseminated in the Review of Fisheries Statistics. Data published are also accessible via the public fisheries web site and more recent series through the Committee Web Site. At the international level co-ordination takes place among agencies involved in fisheries statistical programmes through the Co-ordinated Working Party (CWP) on Fisheries Statistics. The OECD is in close co-operation with the FAO and EUROSTAT in the collection of fisheries data. This is done, inter alia, with a view to avoid overlapping activities.

The data collected (and the procedures) are reviewed by the Committee for Fisheries on an annual basis. Internationally, improvements are carried out through the CWP.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Chinese Taipei, Russian Federation, Thailand.

Databases

Review of Fisheries in OECD Countries.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Continued improvements in metadata and comparison possibilities across member countries. The Government Financial Transfer (GFT) data are now included in the database. Data are now available to the public via the fisheries web site. Chinese Taipei and Thailand have been included since 2006. A major overhaul of the database took place in 2005.

2.4.3 Mining, manufacturing, construction

Steel

Purpose

To meet the mandate of the OECD Steel Committee and provide the statistical background needed for policy discussions in the Committee.

Objectives and outputs

To provide participants of the Steel Committee with a broad range of information on the world steel industry and related raw material markets in order to enhance transparency and facilitate discussion by member and non-member economies on challenging policy issues facing the industry. More specifically, the statistical work includes gathering data on steel supply (capacity, production), demand, prices, trade, employment, and trade policy measures, in addition to market data on raw materials used in steelmaking (iron ore, coal, coke, ferrous scrap, and ferroalloys).

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Chinese Taipei, India, Malaysia, Other, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa, Ukraine.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

The statistical work carried out to support the efforts of the OECD Steel Committee will be enhanced through cooperation with steel statistical providers from around the world.

2.4.4 Transport

Annual Transport Statistics

Purpose

To provide an annual publication presenting disaggregated statistical data in the transport sector.

Objectives and outputs

Data are collected in a harmonised way to facilitate comparisons between modes of transport and between countries by means of a questionnaire common to three international organisations: Eurostat, ITF and UNECE.

Data cover topics such as investment, infrastructure, rolling stock, human resources, traffic and energy consumption for different inland transport modes.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United States, Uzbekistan.

Databases

Transport Statistics - Common Questionnaire.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Due to co-ordination problems between the three international organisations (Eurostat, ITF, UNECE) this publication has been put on hold. The new WEB data collection developed by Eurostat should improve the whole process and allow for a new dissemination of data in 2010, which will include road accident statistics.

Data collection:

Upgraded version of the WEB questionnaire.

International Database of Taxes and Charges for Road Freight Transport

Purpose

To provide indicators for efficiency and impact on competition of taxes and charges for transport in order to allow international comparisons.

Objectives and outputs

The final report provides a framework for international comparisons and discusses the economic principles for efficient systems of taxation. It provides a basis for addressing the questions "what is the right level for transport taxes" and "what kinds of charges should be used".

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

No major changes.

Investment in Transport Infrastructure

Purpose

To provide an annual update of statistical information in transport infrastructure investment, for all ITF countries, on total gross investment and maintenance expenditure.

Objectives and outputs

After processing the data, quality checks were carried out to select reliable time series to be made available on the web site along with a short analysis of trends.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Ukraine.

Databases

Investment in Transport Infrastructure.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Data quality will be improved by using more appropriated deflators when available.

Quarterly Transport Statistics

Purpose

To provide harmonised information on selected basic quarterly indicators in order to compare the latest inland transport trends between countries.

Objectives and outputs

To publish results every three months on the ITF web site, on a country by country basis with 4-5 months lag maximum (data for the first quarter is collected in June and published in July). Available series cover good transport in T-km, passenger transport in P-Km, road traffic in V-Km, brand new vehicles registration, car fuel consumption, road fatalities, imports and exports at current prices and industrial production.

Country by country data tables are available, as well as graphs showing trends for both individual countries and selected groups of countries.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Ukraine.

Databases

Short-term trends survey.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Starting with the publication of the 2nd quarter of 2009 results, an analytical report based on seasonally adjusted data is published each quarter published with the data on the ITF WEB site.

Transport Sector Trends Analysis

Purpose

To provide a first analysis of both passenger and freight transport trends, as well as road accident trends. A short list of selected indicators are collected for that purpose.

Objectives and outputs

To publish an analysis of the transport situation in different geographical regions. The publication also gives the latest statistics on the situation of the transport market in ITF countries and presents charts which help to show what changes have occurred since 1970.

Because it is published earlier than any other comparable study, this report provides first-hand figures about passenger and freight transport as well as road accidents. The publication covers all transport modes including maritime and air.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Ukraine.

Databases

Transport Sector Trends - Leaflet.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

No major changes.

2.4.5 Tourism

Purpose

To meet the 2007-2011 Mandate of the Tourism Committee: a) improve the measurement of tourism services in OECD economies by addressing government and industry information needs and promoting the tourism satellite account; b) contribute to the dissemination of data on tourism economics and to a more effective use of such data for business and policy analysis and decision-making processes; and c) work in complementarity with other international organisations.

Objectives and outputs

In 2010, the second edition of "OECD Tourism trends and policies 2010" will be published in February. It will contain augmented statistical data on member and selected non-member countries. These data will be collected by two methods: a questionnaire will be addressed to countries; data on tourism enterprises and other areas will be extracted from the OECD structural data bases. On the other hand, efforts will be made towards the dissemination of data and analysis on tourism economics at national and local levels. Special efforts will tend to promote the use of Tourism Satellite Account to public and private tourism stakeholders. In Q4 2010, the OECD in cooperation with Eurostat and the Portuguese authorities (INE and Ministry in charge of Tourism) will co-organise the 10th International Forum on Tourism Statistics.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Chile, China, Egypt, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa.

Databases

Tourism

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

The OECD will continue to participate in the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Tourism Statistics (UNWTO, Eurostat, ILO, etc.).

2.4.6 Banking, insurance, financial statistics

Accession examinations of candidate countries (insurance and private pensions statistics)

Purpose

To examine the ability of candidate countries to complying with the OECD statistics' framework related to insurance and private pensions' statistics. Both frameworks require the candidate countries to complete the statistical questionnaires on an on-going basis. Therefore, prior to disseminating any data, quality checks should be undertaken in order to identify possible limitations from the current framework and ways and means to address them should be considered, as appropriate.

Objectives and outputs

The Insurance and Private Pension Committee (IPPC) through its Working Party on Private Pensions and its Task Force on Insurance Statistics has continued the examination on the positions of accession countries (Chile, Estonia, Israel, Slovenia and Russia) and, as appropriate, provide assessment reports to the IPPC and its WPPP.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Chile, Estonia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

More in-depth analysis of country responses to statistical questionnaires should be carried out in 2010.

Bank Profitability - Financial Statements of Banks

Purpose

To compile comprehensive statistics based on financial statements and balance sheets of banks in order to analyse the developments in the profitability of the banking sector of OECD countries.

To provide detailed methodological country notes on the institutional and geographical coverage, the degree of consolidation, the structure of the banking system, the various activities of the banks covered, specific information on individual items, the sources of the data.

Objectives and outputs

The database and publication "Bank Profitability" provide statistical and methodological information to assess the changes in the state of health of national banking systems of OECD countries. They include data on the income statements and balance sheets of a number of bank groupings as well as on the structure of the national financial systems. The statistics relate to all institutions which conduct ordinary banking business, i.e. institutions which primarily take deposits from the public at large and provide finance for a wide range of purposes. Banking indicators calculated on the basis of the primary data are also provided. Quantitative information on the structure of the financial system of individual countries is also included. The coverage of these annual statistics is largely dictated by the availability of the national data on income and expenditure accounts of banks. As a result of reporting methods, they are not integrated in the System of National Accounts. In spite of some differences due to structural and regulatory features of national banking systems, accounting rules and practices and reporting methods, the statistics are based on a standard framework where national data are grouped and/or re-classified, as required. Methodological notes complementing the data are regularly revised. They also provide additional information to analysts, such as the regulatory framework and the activities of banks in each country.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Chile, Estonia, Israel, Slovenia.

Databases

Bank Profitability - Financial Statements of Banks.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Despite the countries' replies to the survey on the availability and usefulness of new items regarding income statement and balance sheets of various categories of banks and new banking ratios based on these new items, and because of difficulties in the co-operation with the IMF, it was decided to maintain the current data collection in 2009 but to calculate more relevant indicators and include them in the 2010 publication. The 2010 questionnaire should be based on the new list of items, based on the IFRS adopted by a large majority of OECD countries. The collection of data relating to Russia will be relaunched so that the OECD database contains information regarding the five accession countries.

Data collection:

According to the countries' replies to the survey on availability and usefulness of items and ratios sent in November 2008, the questionnaire will be modified and sent to countries to collect 2009 data. The possibility of providing data using the SDMX format will be proposed to countries. The new questionnaire will also be sent to accessing countries.

The StatWorks database will be modified accordingly to include all new items as well as new ratios: this will necessitate IT developments.

Data management:

This database will have to be restructured in StatWorks in 2010 to integrate the changes in the list of items and ratios.

The methodological notes, currently available as WORD documents, should be integrated in MetaStore if resources permit.

Fast-track data collection from largest pension funds worldwide

Purpose

The main goal of this exercise is to help policymakers gain a better understanding of investment strategies and risk management conducted by some of the world's leading pension funds. Further, the study will attempt to explain the extent to which differences in liability structures and country-specific regulation explain differences in the management style of funds.

Objectives and outputs

The questionnaire intends to collect quantitative and detailed qualitative information on investment rate of return, asset allocation, derivatives and operating costs.

In 2009, one pension fund participated in the pilot survey to test the questionnaire. In 2010, around 30 pension funds around the world should be included in the study.

Feasibility study of estimating coverage, contributions and benefits from privately managed pensions

Purpose

The main goal of this research is to assess publicly available data sources and to examine ways and means to make better use of available

administrative data and micro datasets at national and international levels in order to be able to estimate (in a future project) levels of private pension coverage, contributions and benefits.

Objectives and outputs

The main objective of this research is to assess and examine how to combine the information in publicly available sources of data that could be used in an extension of the project to build key internationally comparable indicators of coverage, benefits and contributions in private pension systems and to evaluate them.

This research consists of:

- identifying and comparing publicly available administrative, survey or micro datasets in all EU Member states and selected non-EU OECD countries from which it could be envisaged to calculate or estimate a list of indicators pertaining to coverage, contributions and benefits by socio-economic status
- identifying the variables that exist in those datasets that allow calculation or estimation of selected indicators and examining the level of disaggregation of the information on private pension plans and possible variations in definition, timeliness and scope
- examining existing exercises to reconcile macro and micro data
- identifying possible methodological limitations that could jeopardise data quality
- further develop contacts with the relevant international and national entities (e.g. Eurostat, National Statistical Offices, etc.) in order to facilitate data acquisition and quality checks

The research has been initiated in 2009 and the preliminary results have been presented during the December meeting of the WPPP. A preliminary report will be circulated in July 2010.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Bulgaria, Chile, Cyprus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Romania, Sloveni.

Monitoring of Insurance Markets: Global Insurance Statistics

Purpose

The recent financial market turmoil and rapid changes in financial markets and financial systems are creating new challenges for financial statistics. The increased complexity and potential opacity of financial sector operations resulting from globalisation and rapid innovation call for further transparency, better and more comprehensive data, and an enhanced capacity to analyse this data.

With a view to contributing to the development of macro-overview of the insurance market as part of its substantive work and supporting international efforts, the OECD Insurance and Private Pensions Committee decided the continuation of the collection of data that were collected in the special crisis questionnaire on an on-going basis; and, to augment the current standard questionnaire to provide key aggregate statistics relating to premium volume, balance sheet and income statement items (e.g., total assets, shareholder equity, technical provisions, net income), and portfolio investments, and to do so in a timely manner.

Objectives and outputs

A special statistical questionnaire on the impact of the financial crisis on the insurance sector, including variables pertaining to financial strength and profitability of the insurance sector, was developed. This questionnaire was mainly composed of new items. It also combined the variables from the fast-track questionnaire.

Non-member countries involved in the activity

Estonia, Israel, Russian Federation.

Databases

Insurance.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Following the success of the pilot phase, the IPPC has decided to pursue its implementation on an ongoing basis. Additional funding is currently being sought for this multi-year undertaking.

Further improvements foreseen within the framework of this project will include:

Accelerating the collection of statistics to enhance timeliness;

Expanding the current compact set of core statistics and indicators to include additional indicators;

Organisation of a Global Seminar on Insurance Statistics in Asia. The participation of selected additional countries in the regions will be sought at this occasion;

Seeking greater synergy between existing OECD insurance and pension statistical activities.

To provide economic globalisation indicators of insurance statistics to analyse and measure the market share of foreign companies in the global market.

Overview of private pension systems (methodological survey)

Purpose

The yearly review of funded pension system at national level intends to provide a benchmarking tool to develop further the understanding of pension systems and their compliance with the OECD classification for funded pension plans and funds. It also provides information related to the statistical data coverage of the OECD Global Pension Statistics.

Objectives and outputs

This annual survey provides comprehensive detailed metadata for the users of funded pension statistics. The survey, based on a standard template, allows the compilation of comprehensive and detailed metadata individually for all OECD and some non-OECD countries. Standard information allows bilateral comparisons and provides, to a large extent, the underlying differences that explain the cross-country discrepancies in funded pension statistics. The survey also allows the monitoring of methodological improvements over time and provides valuable information on the compliance of systems with the OECD Classification of funded pension plans and funds. Further reading: OECD (2005), Private Pensions: OECD Classification and Glossary, OECD, Paris.

Non-member countries involved in the activity

Chile, Colombia.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

No major changes.

Financial Indicators

Purpose

To capture in quantitative terms an important but heterogeneous and fast evolving area in globalisation of the financial markets and increased sophistication of the actors and activities in these markets.

Objectives and outputs

The Financial Indicators dataset contains financial statistics on six separate subjects: Monetary Aggregates, Interest Rates, Exchange Rates, Reserve Assets, Security Issues, and Share Prices. In all cases considerable effort has been made to ensure that the data are internationally comparable across all countries presented and that all the subjects have good historical time-series' data to aid with analysis. The Financial Indicators unit is responsible for the NME work in the MEI and achievements in 2008 in this area comprised: substantial expansion in the range of indicator series (and their associated metadata) in MEI including several series in Part 1 country comparison tables for BRIICS; creation of a specific OECD.Stat dataset bringing together all QNA data for BRIICS NMEs together with associated metadata.

Non-member countries involved in the activity

Brazil, China, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

MEI_FIN

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

No major changes.

2.5 Government finance, fiscal and public sector statistics

Consumption Tax Trends

Purpose

To compile data from OECD member countries on their consumption tax rates, scopes and thresholds and provide comparative tables and analysis of trends. This includes data on VAT/GST, selected excise duties and car taxation. To compile statistics on VAT/GST revenues from internal OECD sources in order to provide an analysis of trends and calculate the VAT Revenue Ratio. To provide information about a number of consumption tax topics.

Objectives and outputs

Objectives: obtain consensus from CFA/WP9 delegates on the table of contents (approved in March 2009); Obtain data from member countries (January 2010); Analyse data (February-March 2010); Drafting & special features (April-May 2010); Edition process (June-September 2010); Publication: September 2010.

Databases

Consumption Tax Trends.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Compared to 2008 Edition, Chapter on Special Features will change (2010 topic: Application of Value Added Taxes in federal countries). Methodological amendments will be brought to the calculation of the VAT Revenue Ratio.

Central Government Debt Statistics

Purpose

To provide an analytical tool primarily to government debt managers as well as to financial analysts including policy analysts, security analysts, commercial financial institutions, research analysts, etc. This work is carried out under the auspices of the Working Party on Government Debt Management.

The publication "Central Government Debt - Statistical Yearbook" provides annual statistics on central government debt instruments in the 30 OECD countries. The coverage of the data is limited to central government debt issuance; it excludes state and local government debt and social security funds. The main focus of the statistics is marketable debt instruments as well as duration and average term to maturity of domestic, foreign and total debt.

In addition, the publication provides individual country notes including methodological information such as a description of debt instruments and selling techniques in each country.

Objectives and outputs

In the 2009 edition of the statistical yearbook, more series on ultra long-term bonds and on index-linked bonds have been added in all tables by country.

In the OECD data warehouse "OECD.Stat", the hierarchy of the dimension "Variables" was modified to facilitate users' understanding; the import parameter file used to import data from the Excel questionnaire to StatWorks was transformed from an Excel file to an XML file and the dimension "Frequency" that contains only one element was removed.

Accession countries' data were checked and stored in the database.

Non-member countries involved in the activity

Chile, Estonia, Israel, Slovenia.

Databases

Central Government Debt Statistics.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Collection and publication of 2009 data.

The implementation of Statlinks.

Data collection:

Data of accession countries and 2009 data.

Data management:

All coordinates in MetaStore were modified as the dimension "Frequency" of the dataset was removed.

Fiscal Relations Across Levels of Government

Purpose

To collect data to support the activities of the Network on Fiscal Relations across Levels of Government. This includes data on sub national governments' discretion over own revenues and expenditures, on the design of local taxes, on intergovernmental transfers, on fiscal equalisation, on indicators of decentralisation, and on macroeconomic management of sub-central finance.

Objectives and outputs

Collection of two datasets:

- indicators of tax autonomy of sub-central governments
- indicators of the composition of intergovernmental grants

Databases

Fiscal decentralisation.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Data will be available on OECD.Stat.

Monitoring of Private Pension Systems: Global Pension Statistics

Purpose

Launched in 2002 this exercise provides a unique source of comparable statistics and indicators of funded pension plan systems from an international perspective and also facilitates cross-country comparisons of the most up-to-date statistics and indicators on key aspects of funded retirement systems across OECD and non-OECD countries. It aims to provide information about the main trends and features of funded pension plan systems in a clear and concise format.

Objectives and outputs

It aims to provide in a compact manner a comparative overview of the importance and structure of private and funded pension systems across OECD and non-OECD countries using a selected set of statistics and indicators, compiled on an on-going basis together with its companion

product dedicated to the description and assessment of countries' statistical methodology following the OECD Classification on pension plans and pension funds.

Access to OECD private pension statistics has been enhanced through the dissemination of additional data and selected indicators through the OECD Web statistical portal (OECD.Stat). This should be further enriched with the inclusion of country profiles providing key indicators on a country per country basis. As far as paper publications are concerned, the "Private Pensions Outlook 2008" and the newsletter "Pension Markets in Focus" were released in February 2009 and October 2009 respectively. Contributions to other OECD publications (e.g. 'OECD in figures', 'OECD Factbook') will continue in 2010 as well as approximately sixty country profiles generated for the IOPS Web site on a yearly basis.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Croatia, Estonia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Peru, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Thailand, Ukraine.

Databases

OECD Global Pension Statistics.
Pension indicators.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

With respect to quality improvements, the work in 2010 will focus on further improving data completeness for certain financing vehicles (e.g. pension insurance contracts, book reserves), by pension plan and fund types (e.g. data pertaining to personal plans, DB vs. DC) and also across selected variables (e.g. foreign investments, operating costs). Special attention will be dedicated to come up with a thorough understanding of the exact coverage of certain investment classes.

Selected methodological issues will also be addressed. One area of focus will be valuation methods for assets and liabilities, investment performance and funding ratios, comparing national experiences with international standards. Specific issues, such as the valuation of hard-to-value assets and derivatives may also be examined.

Revenue Statistics

Purpose

To provide data on tax revenues in OECD countries. These data are widely used within and outside the OECD to analyse tax policy developments in OECD countries.

Objectives and outputs

The annual "Revenue Statistics" publication provides a conceptual framework to define which government receipts should be regarded as taxes and to classify different types of taxes. It presents a set of detailed, internationally comparable tax data in a common format for all OECD countries from 1965 onwards.

Special features dealing with specific areas of interest (e.g. the interpretation of tax-to-GDP ratios; the impact of revised GDP figures on reported tax levels; changes to the rules for attributing revenues by level of government) represent an important component of the annual report.

Databases

Revenue Statistics.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

The addition of figures for countries joining the OECD.
Re-drafting the commentary on the latest figures.

Data collection

Addition of accession countries joining OECD before the start of the data collection round.

Tax Rates

Purpose

To provide information on tax rates in OECD countries. The taxes covered are personal and corporate income taxes, social security contributions and value added tax. The data are used to analyse tax rate trends and their policy implications.

Objectives and outputs

Data tables showing, for each of the main taxes, the rate and its method of application in each country are disseminated on the OECD website.

Databases

OECD Tax Database.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Inclusion of graphs showing average tax wedges across the income distribution for a set of hypothetical families. Also inclusion of data on new member countries.

Taxing Wages**Purpose**

To provide annual data for OECD countries on the personal income taxes and social security contributions paid by employees and their employers.

Objectives and outputs

The annual "Taxing Wages" publication details the tax/benefit position of employees, covering personal income tax and social security contributions paid by employees and their employers, and universal cash benefits received by family units. Taxes and benefits are detailed for eight family-types, which differ by income level and household composition. The report also presents the resulting average and marginal tax rates.

Databases

Taxing Wages.

Main Developments for 2010**General aspects:**

Inclusion of data for new member countries.

Comparison of Employment and Costs in the Public Domain**Purpose**

In collaboration with ILO, to assemble statistical data regarding employment in the public sector and in the "public domain", by taking into account different kinds of organisations (also public enterprises or private organisations financed by public funds), comparing them with the costs of production of the General Government Sector, in order to elaborate the main indicators and to gain a comprehensive overview of the evolution of the public sector.

Objectives and outputs

To update the 2008 publications on "The State of the Public Service" and "Employment in the public domain in the perspective of the production costs of goods and services in the public domain".

Databases

Public Sector Employment, Pay and Salaries.

Main Developments for 2010**General aspects:**

More detailed metadata.

Management in Government**Purpose**

To collect comparable data and indicators of good government and efficient public services, and to provide robust empirics with which to assess the impact of public management reforms and progress made in their implementation.

Objectives and outputs

The second edition of "Government at a Glance" will be released in 2011. It will include measures of both the market and non-market activities of government and government-owned enterprises. In addition it will also measure other activities which are undertaken outside of general government but which are wholly or partly funded by government. Data are based on general government labour statistics and on detailed information from general government national accounts (investments, public corporations, supply and use tables) and information collected by GOV surveys on governance and public output processes and their results. The second publication will include six categories of variables: revenues; inputs; public sector processes; and antecedents or constraints that contextualize government performance and will also add output and outcome measures for the "whole of government", for selected policy sectors and for the machinery of government.

Non-member countries involved in the activity

Brazil, Chile, China, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa.

Main Developments for 2010**General aspects:**

In 2010 the main priorities are developing new indicators for the second edition of Government at a Glance and the development of a strategy in

the long run for new data collection, including more measures about the quality of public sector processes and selected output and outcome measures.

Benefits and Wages

Purpose

Monitor reforms of tax and benefits systems and their impact on work incentives and income adequacy. Results are used as the basis of the OECD's "Benefits and Wages" publication and as inputs into a wide range of studies produced within and outside the OECD. In addition, the group develops and maintains tax-benefit models. These computer models allow a wide range of tax and benefit indicators to be produced. Finally, an online "tax-benefit calculator" has now been made available on the web-page www.oecd.org/els/social/workincentives and will be maintained and updated in the future.

Objectives and outputs

The Benefits and Wages series addresses the complicated interactions of tax and benefit systems for different family types and labour market situations. The series is a valuable tool used to compare the different benefits made available to those without work and those with different levels of in-work income. The resulting indicators (such as 'net replacement rates') are useful for addressing issues of both work incentives and adequacy of household incomes.

Recent extensions include calculation of incomes and work incentives net of childcare costs. Country coverage were recently extended to include Turkey and, as part of a grant agreement with the European Commission, six of the new EU Members States who are not currently members of the OECD. Preliminary models have been developed for Candidate Countries and new members will be fully integrated into the database. Finally, ad-hoc models were developed jointly with the World Bank for a number of south-eastern European countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Serbia.

An interface for interactive web access to tax-benefit models has been developed ("tax-benefit calculator") and is available on the web-page www.oecd.org/els/social/workincentives. It will be maintained and updated in the future.

Non-member countries involved in the activity

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Cyprus, Estonia, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia.

Databases

Benefits and Wages.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Improved modelling of child-related policies, including transfers available to parents of very young children (e.g. maternity benefits). Improved modelling of the gender dimension of social policies (e.g. by collecting better earnings data for men and women).

Data collection:

include Bulgaria, Romania, Chile, Israel, Russia

2.6 International trade and balance of payments

Creditor Reporting System (CRS) Aid Activity Database

Purpose

Provide Members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and the international aid community a set of readily available basic data that enables analysis on where aid goes, what purposes it serves and what policies it aims to implement. The DAC uses the data for consideration of specific policy issues and for monitoring donors' compliance with various international recommendations in the field of development co-operation. Outside the DAC, the data is mainly used to analyse the sectoral and geographical breakdown of aid for selected years and donors or groups of donors.

Objectives and outputs

Improve consistency, presentation and coverage to reflect current development co-operation priorities and classifications. Continue work on converging DAC and CRS datasets. Test and implement the new typology of aid. Since 2008 (reporting on 2007 flows) the CRS includes the Trade capacity Building Database (TCBDB) operated previously by WTO.

Databases

Creditor Reporting System (CRS) Aid Activity Database.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Continue work started in 2005 to review reporting requirements to converge the CRS and the DAC aggregate data collection. Test and implement new typology of aid agreed by the Working Party on Statistics in June 2008.

Data collection:

Test data collection in new format, merging CRS and DAC systems.

Data management:

Implementation of the new typology of aid.

Database on Country Programmable Aid (CPA database)**Purpose**

Provide members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and the international aid community a set of readily available statistics on country programmable aid (CPA) flows. This new measure of aid comes much closer to capturing the flows received and recorded in country aid management systems than measures of total aid (ODA - official development assistance). CPA is estimated on the basis of the standard DAC statistics (DAC and CRS) and defined through exclusion, by subtracting from total gross ODA aid that is: unpredictable by nature (humanitarian aid and debt relief); entails no cross-border flows (administrative costs, imputed student costs, promotion of development awareness, and research and refugees in donor countries); does not form part of co-operation agreements between governments (food aid and aid from local governments); or is not country programmable by the donor (core funding of NGOs). The database provides reference data to DAC and other stakeholders for the analysis of fragmentation and planned forward spending of aid.

Objectives and outputs

To provide timely and comprehensive statistics on country programmable aid (CPA) for all countries and territories on the DAC List of ODA Recipients. To provide reference data for the annual Report of the Survey of Indicative Forward Spending Plans and for the annual Report on Division of Labour and global fragmentation.

Main Developments for 2010**General aspects:**

Further strengthening the methodology to derive CPA and make sectoral CPA data available online via OECD.STAT and QWIDS.

Official and Private Resource Flows from DAC Members to Developing Countries**Purpose**

The Development Assistance Committee (DAC) database provides comprehensive data on the volume, origin and types of aid and other resource flows to over 150 aid recipients. The data shows each aid recipient's receipts of official development assistance (ODA), other official flows and private flows from members of the DAC, multilateral agencies and other non-DAC donors.

Objectives and outputs

To provide timely and comprehensive statistics of official and private flows to all countries and territories on the DAC list of ODA recipients. Improve consistency, presentation and coverage to reflect current development co-operation priorities and classifications. Update reporting guidance to maintain comparable statistics and improve reporting and comparability of statistics on the tying status of aid. Support work on changing patterns of development finance and the increasing role of private flows.

Databases

Database on official and private resource flows from DAC Members to developing countries.

Main Developments for 2010**General aspects:**

Continued reform of DAC statistics, through implementation of new classification of aid, further work on improving access to data, possible sharing of data with developing countries, and continuing help from Secretariat to members in improving statistical quality and timeliness.

Data collection:

Test and implement new typology.

Balance of Payments**Purpose**

To collect and publish timely, accurate and internationally comparable Balance of Payments statistics to meet OECD user needs.

Objectives and outputs

To provide timely summary quarterly statistics on Balance of Payments and OECD international trade in goods and services and Foreign Direct Investment. To improve the efficiency of data collection, timeliness, international comparability and quality of the published balance of payments data on the MEI database. To contribute as appropriate to the OECD Quarterly Trade Press Release. To contribute to methodological work on Balance of Payments. To improve information on remittance flows to meet user needs.

Non-member countries involved in the activity

Brazil, Chile, China, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa.

Databases

Balance of Payments

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Continued improvement in quality checking, coherence and timeliness of BOP dataset and metadata. Completion of core set of variables for all countries covered.

Promote visibility of the data on OECD.Stat and in MEI publication. Production of quarterly tables for OECD international trade in services trade and foreign direct investment.

Contribute as appropriate to work of technical groups working on Balance of Payments and associated subjects, such as the Luxembourg Group work on a compilers manual on remittances.

Review and update OECD estimates of the pattern of world flows of remittances. Collect and publish data on remittance flows and as far as possible on the main corridors of these flows, in coordination with Eurostat.

Contribute as required to the work of the WP on trade in goods and trade in services statistics.

Data collection:

Improve the efficiency and timeliness of data collection. Find new data for non member countries.

Benchmark Definition of Foreign Direct Investment

Purpose

To set standards on how foreign direct investment data should be compiled according to international standards. Internationally comparable data, based on these concepts, makes it possible to measure the degree of economic integration and competitiveness of markets.

Objectives and outputs

Following the Council recommendation of 2008:

(i) to continue work on Research Agenda;

(ii) To promote exchange of best practices and information between countries to facilitate implementation of BMD4 standards to improve FDI statistics;

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Asia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Europe, European Commission, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, International organisation, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Other, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

- Establishing a clear communications policy for data users on revised FDI definitions and concepts;

- Implementing an electronic version of the recommendations and practical examples, etc.

- Providing regional and other assistance as appropriate to national compilers.

FDI statistics -Review of OECD accession candidate countries

Purpose

To review the position of the OECD accession candidate country vis-a-vis the Benchmark Definition of Foreign Direct Investment, 4th edition and related reporting requirements as set out in the Accession Roadmap.

Objectives and outputs

Contribution to Investment Committee's examination of the willingness and the ability of the accession candidate country to assume the obligations of OECD membership in its field of competence.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Russian Federation.

Foreign Direct Investment

Purpose

To compile and disseminate regularly reliable and up-to-date Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) statistics which are essential for a meaningful interpretation of investment trends for the purpose of policy analysis and decision. FDI statistics provide a reliable and comprehensive source of information to OECD governments, potential investors and the public at large. They also provide the basis for periodical analyses of direct investment trends and of policies towards international direct investment in OECD member countries.

Objectives and outputs

FDI statistical series provide detailed information on inward and outward FDI flows and positions to and from OECD countries. The information is based on a standard presentation designed according to internationally agreed standards (joint OECD-EUROSTAT questionnaire based on the

OECD Benchmark Definition of Foreign Direct Investment and the IMF Balance of Payments Manual). Comparative tables and charts by geographical and sectoral breakdowns for direct investment flows and stocks complement the information included for individual countries. Statistics are also included regularly or as required for trends analysis, to monitor foreign investment activities, country reviews, etc. Data and analysis are mainly published annually in two distinct publications: OECD International Direct Investment Yearbook and International Investment Perspectives. Data are also provided on OECD.Stat for wider usage by OECD analysts.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, China, Estonia, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa.

Databases

Foreign Direct Investment.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

The database will be upgraded to include the revised methodological recommendations included in the OECD Benchmark Definition of Foreign Direct Investment. This upgrading will allow including data according to BMD4 which countries may report in 2010 for the reference year 2009.

Data collection:

Data collection on the basis of the revised questionnaires and using the electronic questionnaire where countries are not applying GESMES.

International Trade Indicators

Purpose

To measure globalisation in the context of international trade, for the levels of total trade (goods and services), trade of goods and trade of services. Some of the indicators refer to aggregated levels while other ones differentiate according to types of commodities traded, to types of services delivered or to types of economic activities involved.

Objectives and outputs

Extension of the indicators present in the database.
Update of existing indicators.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Extension of a number of indicators in response to identified, globalisation-related statistical needs.
Improvement of timeliness of data updates, extension of FAME-based calculation and updating procedures to more indicators.

Survey of Implementation of Methodological Standards for Direct Investment- 2nd edition (SIMSDI-2)

Purpose

The primary purpose of SIMSDI, in accordance with the OECD Council recommendation of 22 May 2008 (and of 1995), is to regularly review national practices applied by OECD and non-OECD countries to compile foreign direct investment (FDI) statistics and to provide an objective benchmarking tool to assess the extent of the implementation of international standards recommended by the OECD and the IMF. SIMSDI also provides comprehensive detailed metadata for the users of FDI statistics. SIMSDI is the assessment tool of the Benchmark Definition of Foreign Direct Investment.

Objectives and outputs

SIMSDI, based on a standard questionnaire, allows compiling comprehensive and detailed metadata individually for all OECD and a large number of non-OECD countries. Standard information allows bilateral comparisons and provides, to a large extent, the underlying differences that explain the cross-country discrepancies in FDI statistics. SIMSDI allows monitoring the methodological improvements over time of the countries included in the survey. SIMSDI also provides valuable information to OECD for the revision of international methodological standards, namely on the difficulties experienced by national compilers when implementing some of the recommendations or the relevance/irrelevance of some guidelines as economic factors may change over time. SIMSDI results are analysed in "Foreign Direct Investment Statistics: How countries measure FDI" (OECD and IMF countries) and in How South Eastern Countries Measure FDI Statistics".
The SIMSDI questionnaire was revised to incorporate the revisions of the Benchmark Definition of Foreign Direct Investment, 4th edition.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Chile, Estonia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Complete the creation and implementation of the SIMSDI database in a new IT environment. Incorporate data capturing features which can be accessed by reporting countries.

Trade by enterprise characteristics

Purpose

To measure, on the one hand, the contribution of real economic sectors to trading, and on the other hand, to complement business data with detailed information on trade, which is traditionally not part of business statistics.

Objectives and outputs

Under guidance of the Business Economic Statistics and Trade (BEST) Steering Group, a first OECD Linkage Table, which is based on Eurostat's Standardisation Document Rev. 2, was sent out to participating Non-EU-OECD member countries. Up to now, OECD has received data collection tables from Canada, the United States and Norway. In addition, Eurostat provided OECD with the respective (published) data tables of several EU member states for reference year 2003. After reclassification of the Eurostat data to OECD standards (ISIC and CPC classifications, USD currency and OECD geo-nomenclature), these were integrated to the Trade by enterprise characteristics (TEC) database of the OECD, available in the globalisation cube of OECD.Stat.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

In 2010, the data collection will include more recent reference years, in co-operation with Eurostat. The next BEST Steering Group meeting (to be hosted by the OECD in April 2010) will be the crucial point to fix the next steps for the continuation and expansion of this database. It is envisaged to include more non-EU OECD member countries as reporters to the dataset (this depends, of course, on the capability and the willingness of the countries to perform this linkage exercise and, thus, to provide the respective data). An extension to services is envisaged, based upon new developments in selected countries.

International Trade in Goods

Purpose

To produce consistent and timely international trade data for OECD member countries and ensure methodological soundness and comparability of international trade data. To conduct research to improve the quality of the concepts underlying international trade data and play an active role in the development of international standards.

Objectives and outputs

Collects and maintains two databases for analytical use: (a) monthly data of exports and imports at current prices by partner countries and main categories of commodities, and volume and average value indices for selected countries and main categories; and (b) detailed annual data of exports and imports by commodities and by partner countries using three classifications (SITC, HS, ISIC).

Full implementation of the OECD-UNSD data sharing agreement covering all OECD member countries. A successful completion of the first phase (data collection and transmission to UNSD) of this initiative has already resulted in a reduction of the response burden for member countries and has led in 2006 to identical trade figures published by both the UN and the OECD (processed data). The OECD meeting of experts in international trade will continue to stimulate the exchange of views and research on methodological issues. The 2009 ITS expert meeting attracted 130 participants.

OECD continues to participate in and contribute to the Inter-Agency Merchandise Trade Task Force and manages, and moderates together with WTO, the EDG "Tradenet" on methodological and co-ordination issues affecting various national and international organisations.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, Chinese Taipei, Estonia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia.

Databases

International trade by Commodity Statistics.

Monthly Statistics of International Trade.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

In 2010, data quality and timeliness of processed data should be further improved as it is planned to implement "data capture" checks in order to facilitate the upload of data into ITCS.

ITCS in OECD.Stat has continued stabilizing in 2009 and efficiency results have been gained thanks to the new server and new architecture of ITCS on OECD.Stat which resulted in better performances and better timeliness (through the implementation of a direct link between ITCS and OECD.Stat).

The team will continue working on files data and metadata files received in the context of the accession of the new members to the OECD.

Upload of data files into the database will be dealt with in the context of all the other priorities.

It is planned to introduce the new ICT grouping into the database when the content of it agreed upon at the STI spring WP.

Data collection:

Concurrent use of the ITCS OECD-UNSD common data collection and processing system and the OECD trade ITCS in OECD.Stat. Full addition of ISIC classification.

International Trade in Services

Purpose

To provide detailed, relevant and internationally comparable data for trade policy and economic analysis. The information needs of international trade negotiations including the General Agreement on Trade in Services and the observed increase in internationalisation of services production are driving new developments.

Objectives and outputs

An annual joint effort publication with Eurostat and database: "OECD Statistics on International Trade in Services - Detailed tables by category of service". This covers the 30 member countries. Data are based on the concepts of the IMF's 5th Balance of Payments Manual and are broken down according to the detailed EBOPS Classification of Trade in Services. The publication "OECD Statistics on International Trade in Services - Detailed Tables by Partner Country" provides bilateral service trade flows for 28 member countries, Hong Kong SAR and Russian Federation. Coordinate the work of the Interagency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services including the submission of the "The Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services" (MSITS 2010) to the UNCS in 2010. Produce report to the UNSC. Start work on compilation guidance.

Contribute to organisation of the WP on trade in goods and trade in services statistics.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Chile, China, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa.

Databases

International trade in services by category of service (TIS).

OECD Statistics on International Trade in Services by Service Category and by Partner Country.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Promote SDMX for exchanging trade in services data.

Facilitate to the extent possible links between the classifications EBOPS and ISIC.

Coordinate with other agencies and agree final proposals for the revised Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services - after full consultation with OECD members.

Expand published trade in services data by partner country using new facilities in StatWorks and OECD.Stat. Improve the timeliness, with rolling updates, and detail of published data. Monitor progress in the implementation of MSITS recommendations. Contribute to revision work of BPM6, where it is related to trade in services.

Contribute to OECD analytical work and in particular work closely with TAD and STI on data needs for the Services Trade Restrictiveness Index.

Improve estimates of world trade flows of services.

Cooperate with Eurostat to collect and make available as far as possible partner country data on remittances.

Develop cooperation with UNSD and other agencies on data sharing in trade in services.

Data collection:

Pursue rolling update of trade in services by partner country data as data become available. Countries that are sent an excel questionnaire will be asked to fill in. A second best would now be for them to provide us with their data in an SDMX format.

Intra-firm trade

Purpose

To create a dataset of intra-firm trade among OECD countries for TAD report on "Intra-firm trade and investment".

Objectives and outputs

The project will start in 2010.

Monthly International Trade

Purpose

To produce consistent and timely international trade data for OECD member countries, ensure methodological soundness and comparability of international trade data, conduct research to improve the quality of the concepts underlying international trade data and play an active role in the development of international standards.

Objectives and outputs

Collect data and maintain database for analytical use: monthly data of exports and imports at current prices by partner countries and main categories of commodities, and volume and average value indices for selected countries and main categories. Continuous and close co-operation with key users at OECD. Updating cycles optimised to respond to needs of Economic Outlook. Online availability of OECD's detailed international trade data. OECD continues to actively participate and contribute to the International Trade Task Force (Inter-Agency TF).

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Russian Federation, Slovenia.

Databases

Monthly Statistics of International Trade (MSIT).

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Following the recommendations of the WPTGS and the work carried out by the Secretariat, it is planned for 2010 to continue work on implementation of the methodological questionnaire results; advance total trade data submission to MSIT to feed into MEI in a timely manner (after aligning methodologies between MSIT and MEI) and to produce identical, consistent monthly trade aggregate figures in the two publications; expand scope of countries to include the 5 Accession countries with help from additional resources marked to that effect.

Services Trade Restrictiveness Index**Purpose**

To update the database created for the Services Trade Restrictiveness Index project of the Trade Committee.

Objectives and outputs

Three datasets have been created at the bilateral by sector level:

- Cross-border trade in services
- FDI stocks
- FATS statistics

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Chile, China, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa.

Main Developments for 2010**General aspects:**

Data will be updated and completed.

2.7 Prices**Price Indicators****Purpose**

To provide a set of relevant, reliable, timely, monthly and quarterly price indices for internal and external users. To provide methodological information on these price indices.

Objectives and outputs

The 'Price Indices' dataset in the Main Economic Indicators (MEI) publication and database contains statistics on Consumer prices, Producer prices and Construction costs for 30 OECD member countries, 6 Accession countries and 5 B(R)ICS countries. The data series presented within these subjects have been chosen as the most relevant prices statistics in the MEI database for which comparable data across countries is available. In all cases much effort has gone into ensuring international comparability and into the availability of historical time-series for analysis. Organisation of Seminars to discuss methodological issues. A manual on real estate prices will be written.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Chile, China, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

MEI
MEI_PRICE

Main Developments for 2010**General aspects:**

For CPI, finalisation of the implementation of chain-linking calculation for all specific country aggregates and zones.

Data management:

Harmonisation of metadata across countries and introduction of new inflation measures.

Purchasing Power Parities**Purpose**

Produce reliable and timely Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs) data for OECD member countries. PPPs are an important tool to compare levels of real income or real output across countries with indicators such as GDP per capita and relative price levels between countries.

Objectives and outputs

Calculation of preliminary results for the round 2008- detailed results to be finalised by the end of 2010

Organisation of the data collection for the 2011 round which started in 2009 and covers 47 countries (30 OECD countries and 17 non-member countries).

Work closely with Eurostat to further harmonise the methodology employed. Participate in the ad-hoc task forces set up by Eurostat to discuss various issues associated with PPPs.

Organisation with ELS of an OECD Task Force on specific PPPs for health.

Participate in the ad-hoc task forces set up by Eurostat to discuss various issues associated with PPPs (on 2010, integrated database and construction).

Databases

ANA

Purchasing Power Parities

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Improvement of PPPs for health.

Organise a meeting in Paris with non-European OECD countries ("The Pacific Group") to have closer relationships with countries at all stages of the round.

Provide technical input into the 2011 round of the ICP currently being organised by the World Bank.

2.9 Science and technology

Analytical Business Enterprise Research and Development

Purpose

To provide a consistent and comparable data set across countries and over time on industrial R&D expenditures broken down by industry.

Objectives and outputs

The ANBERD (Analytical Business Enterprise Research and Development) database was developed to provide a consistent data set that overcomes the problems of international comparability and breaks in the time series of the official business enterprise R&D by industry provided to the OECD by its member countries through the OECD's R&D survey.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Israel, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa.

Databases

Analytical Business Enterprise Research and Development (ANBERD)/ Analytical Researchers, Scientists and Engineers (ANRSE).

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Country coverage was expanded in 2009, along with the methodological notes. This work will be continued in 2010.

Biotechnology

Purpose

To establish international standards for the collection of biotechnology data across OECD member countries.

Objectives and outputs

Under the auspices of the National Experts of Science and Technology Indicators (NESTI) group, six Ad hoc Biotechnology Statistics meetings have been held to date. These meetings have achieved: an internationally agreed upon definition of biotechnology, a model survey for the collection of biotechnology data in member countries, and an inventory of biotechnology data collected in member and selected non-member countries.

OECD Biotechnology Statistics was released in 2009.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

China, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Methodological work on measuring biotech activities in the higher education and government sector. Revision of the OECD biotech definition.

Main Science and Technology Indicators

Purpose

To publish biannually the most commonly used indicators on science and technology on an internationally comparable basis. The database and publication are regularly updated with 76 (paper publication) to 140 (electronic publication) data series presenting resources devoted to R&D and measures of output and the impact of S&T activities.

Objectives and outputs

This biannual publication provides a set of indicators that reflect the level and structure of the efforts undertaken by OECD member countries and

9 non-member economies in the field of science and technology. These data include final and provisional results as well as forecasts established by government authorities. The indicators cover the resources devoted to research and development, patent families, technology balance of payments and international trade in highly R&D intensive industries. Also presented are the underlying economic series used to calculate these indicators. Series are presented for a reference year and the last six years for which data are available (paper publication) and beginning 1981 (electronic editions).

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, China, Chinese Taipei, Israel, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa.

Databases

Main Science and Technology Indicators.

Patents

Purpose

To develop an international statistical infrastructure for patents (including databases and methodologies), which will provide the conditions for improving the quality and international comparability of patent indicators. Development of policy-relevant indicators from this work. Serves as a basis for policy relevant studies carried out within and outside OECD.

Objectives and outputs

The main objective is to develop patent databases suitable for calculating indicators for statistical and S&T policy purposes, covering patent filings to national and regional patent offices across the world.

Currently, the following patent statistics are collected and processed on a regular basis: indicators based on EPO (European Patent Office) patent; indicators based on USPTO (US Patent and Trademark Office) patents; indicators based on patent applications filed under the PCT (Patent Co-operation Treaty) and "triadic" patent families indicators. EPO and PCT data are broken at the regional level.

Patent statistics are published in various publications: Main Science and Technology Indicators; OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard; OECD Science, Technology and Industry Outlook and a freely available annual Compendium of Patent Statistics.

The focus of the methodological work is to provide guidelines for compiling patent statistics and indicators, and to provide users with methodological information in a transparent manner. The following issues have been investigated: criteria for counting patent data; triadic patent families' definition; patent data for specific technology area; patent data by industry, patents by region and patent citations. The OECD Patent Statistics Manual 2009 was released in February 2009.

First results of a matching exercise, between patent data and firm level databases, were presented at WPIA and NESTI meetings held in 2009. A database on harmonised patent applicant's names (HAN) was made available to researchers in October 2009.

Analyses using Trademark data were presented at WPIA meetings in 2009, and a dedicated workshop was held at the OECD in July 2009.

Regular workshops on patent statistics are jointly organised by OECD, EPO, WIPO and Eurostat.

Databases

Patent Statistics.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Updating the existing patent database; extending the data coverage (i.e. to include information from more national patent offices); expand the exercise of harmonising patent applicant's names and matching with firm-level databases, development of further patent indicators (reflecting globalisation, specific technologies); development of citations indicators, development of further analytical applications of patent data, patents by industry.

Patent based indicators and analyses expected to make contribution to OECD Innovation Strategy. Increased use by other directorates (e.g. ENV, GOV and IEA) expected in 2010.

Further work to develop Trademark data are also expected.

Data management:

Add a section on patent indicators at regional level (TL3) in OECD.Stat.

Research and Development (R&D) Statistics

Purpose

To provide internal and external users with statistics on R&D expenditures and personnel and to ensure, through appropriate methodological work, the international comparability of corresponding national statistics.

Objectives and outputs

Management and/or development of internationally comparable statistics on resources devoted to R&D in member countries and in nine non-member economies based on the OECD international methodology for R&D survey, the "Frascati Manual". Diffusion of S&T statistics and corresponding metadata via the annual "R&D Statistics" and the biannual "Main S&T Indicators" publications and the on-line "R&D Sources and Methods database". The country coverage of OECD S&T databases and publications is being expanded to include comparable S&T indicators and statistics for non-member economies such as Argentina, China, Israel, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa and Chinese Taipei.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Israel, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa.

Databases

Research and Development Statistics (RDS).

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Plan to implement ISIC Rev. 4.

Sources and Methods for Research and Development (R&D) Statistics

Purpose

To meet demand for country-specific and item-specific methodology, this database relates principally to R&D as reported by the units performing the R&D in line with the standard methodology for R&D statistics recommended by OECD in the Proposed Standard Practice for Surveys of Research and Experimental Development - Frascati Manual (OECD).

Objectives and outputs

The database provides detail on methods used in the member countries and nine non-member economies when compiling the R&D data reported to OECD in the framework of the International Survey of the Resources devoted to R&D by OECD countries, underlining both current and historical national specificities of the data stored in the OECD STI/EAS R&D database. The sources and methods are regularly updated as part of the International Survey of the Resources devoted to R&D by OECD countries. The Secretariat has made this database available on line either through the NESTI-NET: <http://webdomino1.oecd.org/COMNET/STI/NESTI-NET.nsf/Welcome?openframeset>, or via http://webnet.oecd.org/rd_gb_aord_metadata/default.aspx where delegates and the public are able to consult.

Selected metadata are regularly published in "Research and Development Statistics" (annual electronic publication) as well as in "Main Science and Technology Indicators" (paper and electronic publication appearing twice yearly). This information was also used as input to the revision of the "Frascati Manual", the international standard methodology for the measurement of resources devoted to R&D.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, China, Chinese Taipei, Israel, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa.

Databases

R&D_SM database.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

The database will be made available to the public.

3. Environment and multi-domain statistics (OECD)

3.1 Environment

Agri-Environmental Indicators

Purpose

To provide information to policy makers on the current state and changes of the environment in agriculture to better understand the linkages between agricultural policies and environmental impacts.

Objectives and outputs

"Environmental Indicators for Agriculture" includes the complete list of agricultural indicators, which covers a range of issues, such as agricultural impacts on soil, water, air, biodiversity and landscape.

Databases

Nitrogen Balance Database.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

No major changes.

Environmental Data

Purpose

Produce objective, reliable and comparable environmental statistics at the international level as a factual basis for the OECD's policy and analytical work on environment and sustainable development (environmental indicators, environmental country peer reviews, resource

productivity, environmental outlooks and environmentally sustainable development).

Collect the best available environmental data in OECD member and partner countries, promote international harmonisation of these data (core set of environmental data) and strengthen the capacity of member and selected non-member countries in the field of information production, management and use concerning the environment and sustainable development.

Objectives and outputs

Contribute to the update and publication of the OECD Compendium of environmental data and to the update of the OECD System of Information on Resources and the Environment (SIREN) database.

Data collection from member countries via the OECD questionnaire on the state of the environment (joint work with Eurostat for European Union, EFTA and EU candidate countries; co-operation with UNSD and UNEP for non-member economies).

Contribute to the international harmonisation of environmental data, definitions and concepts, and the cost-effectiveness of related international work.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Chile, China, Estonia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia.

Databases

SIREN (System of Information on Resources and the Environment).

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Implementation of the Collaborative Plan of Action on Environmental Data Quality, linked to the "OECD Quality Framework" and improved data quality in selected areas (continued work) with a focus on key reference series and on "data efficiency", "coherence among countries" and "interpretation", through simplified annual updates and improved country documentation. Review of questionnaire and of collection process (collection frequency, data sources, data hierarchy). Improved coverage of agri-environmental issues. Improved access to environmental information and migration of reference series to the OECD's statistical platform.

Review of information needs for OECD policy analysis and evaluation. Identification of main gaps in OECD data collection and treatment.

Identification of priority issues for data quality efforts in the next years. Inventory of available national and international data sources.

Continued work on the measurement of material flows and resource productivity (as part of the implementation of the OECD Council recommendations on material flows and resource productivity adopted in 2004 and 2008). Preparation of a fact-based report on the state of resources in OECD countries and beyond. Production of an implementation guide for national material flow accounts jointly with Eurostat (Volume IV of the series of OECD guidance documents). Co-operation with the UNCEEA and the London Group on Environmental Accounting to ensure coherence with the revision of the SEEA and the production of sectoral manuals.

Data collection:

Ongoing revision and simplification of the questionnaire sections; review of collection frequency (joint work with Eurostat and in co-operation with UNSD/UNEP). Addition of a section on agri-environmental indicators.

Data collection to focus on inland waters; (ii) waste; (iii) environmental protection expenditure and revenues.

Data management:

Facilitate the transfer of selected environmental reference series to the corporate data warehouse OECD.Stat.

Environmental Indicators

Purpose

Provide sound, measurable and policy-relevant indicators for the OECD's policy and analytical work on environment and sustainable development (e.g. environmental outlook, environmental country reviews, sustainable development, economic analysis) and support related member and selected non-member countries' efforts.

Develop core sets of reliable, measurable and policy-relevant environmental indicators to contribute to: measuring environmental performance with respect to environmental quality, environmental goals and international agreements; integrating environmental concerns in economic and sectoral policies; monitoring progress towards environmentally sustainable development, including decoupling of environmental pressure from economic growth; measuring material flows and resource productivity (link to the OECD Council recommendations on material flows and resource productivity adopted in 2004 and 2008); informing the public about major environmental trends and conditions.

Objectives and outputs

Support the work of the OECD Environmental Policy Committee and its subsidiary bodies, in particular country peer reviews.

Further develop sets of sectoral indicators, i.e. agri-environmental indicators (see related activity description) and develop a balanced set of material flow and resource productivity indicators for international use at various levels of detail/aggregation. Prepare guidance on the interpretation and use of material flow and resource productivity indicators in decision making (link to sustainable development, to work on sustainable materials management and on sustainable manufacturing). Prepare a set of indicators to monitor progress with green growth.

Databases

Environmental indicators.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Updated OECD key environmental indicators (KEI) and major environmental indicators for use in country peer reviews. Review of indicators for peer reviews.

Proposed set of material flow and resource productivity indicators for OECD use.

Proposed set of indicators to monitor progress with green growth (link to the development of the OECD Green Growth Strategy).

New and improved indicators on environmental quality of life (link to the recommendation of the Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi commission).

New and improved indicators on biological diversity.

Instruments Used for Environmental Policy**Purpose**

To provide harmonised information on environmentally related taxes and on a number of other instruments used for environmental policy. In support of the OECD work on the use of economic instruments, draw policy conclusions and develop practical guidelines for their implementation.

Objectives and outputs

The OECD/EEA database on environmentally related taxes provides many details concerning environmentally related taxes, fees and charges levied in OECD member countries. The original focus of the database was on pollution-oriented levies and tax-bases, but levies related to resource management have also been included. The tax-bases covered include energy products, transport equipment and transport services, as well as measured or estimated emissions to air and water, ozone depleting substances, certain non-point sources of water pollution, waste management and noise, in addition to the management of water, land, soil, forests, biodiversity, wildlife and fish stocks.

Through co-operation with the European Environment Agency, the country coverage of the database has been broadened to include a number of OECD non-member countries affiliated to EEA.

In addition, Israel and South Africa provided information on some of their environmentally related taxes in 2007. Other accession countries and enhanced engagement countries are expected to provide information in the coming years.

The instrument coverage has also been broadened, and now includes tradable permit systems, environmentally motivated subsidies, deposit-refund systems and voluntary approaches used for environmental policy.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Israel, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia, South Africa.

Databases

ENV\NP\Ecolnst under Projects on WebDev2.

Main Developments for 2010**General aspects:**

A further broadening of both country and instrument coverage is expected.

Green growth indicators**Purpose**

To develop a set of indicators as part of the OECD's Green Growth Strategy.

Objectives and outputs**objectives in 2010:**

--development of indicator framework

--compilation of relevant existing OECD data

--identification of data gaps and strategy to reduce them

--contribution to interim report to MCM 2010.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, India, Russian Federation, South Africa

3.2 Regional and small area statistics**Regional Statistics and Indicators****Purpose**

To provide an internationally comparable database for the analysis of sub-national socio economic statistics. Policy framework defined in the Territorial Development Policy Committee.

Objectives and outputs

The main objective is to provide an internationally comparable database for the analysis of relevant socio-economic trends at the sub-national level. The database includes basic statistics on five major topics (demography, economy, labour market, society and innovation) covering around

2000 regions across the OECD.

Regional statistics and indicators are regularly (every second year) published in "OECD Regions at a Glance".

The main achievements for the year 2008 include:

- web-tool to visualize and explore regional statistics available on the OECD website;
- Dissemination of most of the Regional Database through OECD.Stat;
- New data collection: innovation indicators at the regional level;
- Improvements in data quality (time series extension, improvement of metadata).

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Chile, Morocco, Slovenia.

Databases

Regional Database (TDB).

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

The main objectives for the year 2010 are to:

- further enrich the regional database with the collection of additional indicators regarding migration and public investments
- include some regional statistics from non- OECD economies
- to refine the OECD regional typology for rural regions
- to harmonize the OECD and EC definitions of metropolitan areas
- enrich the analysis on innovation indicators;
- use the web-tool OECD explorer to yearly update and disseminate the regional database;
- use SQL to manage and update the regional database

Data collection:

Collection of data on employment by industry, health indicators, and income distribution at the regional level.

3.3 Multi-domain statistics and indicators

Global Project on Measuring the Progress of Societies

Purpose

The Global Project on "Measuring the Progress of Societies" is an international, inter-organisational initiative, hosted by the OECD. Its aim is to encourage the development of indicator sets which go 'beyond GDP' to provide a comprehensive picture of societal wellbeing to inform policy makers and the public. It provides a setting for networking and advocacy, undertaking research, and delivering innovative tools to share information. The ultimate purpose of the Global Project's activities is to provide measurement tools which can support policymaking focused on increased wellbeing and societal progress.

Objectives and outputs

In 2009, the Global Project launched several new activities and continued its networking role, in particular with the successful organisation of the 3rd World Forum on "Statistics, Knowledge and Policy" in Busan, Korea. The objectives of the Project in this year were structured around 3 main pillars:

1) Encouraging discussion on what to measure when thinking about progress.

The question of "what to measure" was discussed at various thematic and regional meetings around the world. Not least, the 3rd World Forum was a great success, attracting almost 2000 participants. The issues that emerged from the Forum will help to shape the GP's work for the following biennium. Furthermore, the GP produced a 'Framework to Measure the Progress of Societies'.

2) Providing guidelines on how to measure progress.

The GP completed work on a 'Quality Framework' for developing progress indicators, which is currently under review. Several training courses have also been conducted around the world and a 'Practical Guide' on measuring progress has been completed to be released as a working paper. Work was also undertaken on how to measure specific dimension of progress, such as Trust and Vulnerability (with a Working Paper on trust being published).

3) Ensuring that progress measures are used and have an impact.

Alongside the Global Project website and other communication tools, the GP launched 'Wikiprogress' in 2009, which is a collaborative online platform that aims to become the main place where experts and practitioners can share best practice on indicator design, calculation and dissemination.

Finally, the Global Project network has continued to expand, with linkages being established with many different 'measuring progress' initiatives around the world.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Europe, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, International organisation, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Other, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of

Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

In 2010, the work of the Global Project will focus on three areas: promotion of awareness and capacity building; communication; and, research and indicators. In the first area of work, preparations will begin for the 4th World Forum, to be held in India in late 2011/early 2012. Thematic and regional events will be held throughout 2010, including a regional conference on Measuring Progress in Latin America. A joint online training course will be held in collaboration with UNITAR. In 2010, special effort will be made to involve experts and directorates from across the OECD. In terms of communication tools, particular emphasis will be given to building up the content of Wikiprogress and establishing an online community of users and contributors. Work on how IT tools can be used to communicate and disseminate statistical indicators will continue and the flagship product 'OECD Explorer' will be expanded. A Working Paper series on Measuring Progress will also be established in 2010. Finally, the Global Office as well as the OECD itself will contribute to the Global Project through a number of substantive products in the area of research and indicators. The Global Office will pursue work on measuring Vulnerability (to be completed by the end of 2010), and work on a Handbook on the Subjective Measurement of Wellbeing will be undertaken (provided the pledged funding for this project comes through). The OECD itself is putting in place or reinforcing a number of activities to follow up on the recommendations of the Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress (known as the 'Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi Report', launched in late 2009) including the integration of information on distribution within macro-statistics for the household sector; measuring human capital; and wellbeing and environment. The groundwork will also be laid for producing a publication which can bring together key OECD data in a 'Progress at a Glance' publication.

E-Government

Purpose

To help strengthen statistical capacity in support to the e-government project areas of work and to the preparation of the e-government peer reviews.

Objectives and outputs

The objective of the activity is to support the analysis in the area of e-government statistics, monitoring and evaluating e-government and the business case for e-government, in particular:

- Gather data supporting the OECD e-government peer review framework (challenges, leadership, implementation, collaboration frameworks, and outputs and outcomes).
- Support countries' evolving reform efforts in key areas: cost and benefit analysis, transformation.
- Provide front- and back-office indicators as part of the Government at a Glance publications.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa, Ukraine.

Databases

OECD E-government Database.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

A new set of basic OECD e-government indicators will be defined within the areas:

- Back-office.
- Performance.
- The economics of e-government.

3.3.1 Living conditions, poverty and cross-cutting social issues

Family Outcomes and Policies

Purpose

To include cross-national information on family outcomes and policies as categorised under 4 broad headings: the structure of families, families and children, the labour market position of families, public policies for families and children, and child outcomes.

Objectives and outputs

Following up on the OECD Babies and Bosses reviews on the reconciliation of work and family life in selected Member States, and in view of the strong demand for cross-national indicators on the situation of families and children, the OECD has developed an on-line database on family outcomes and family policies with indicators for all OECD countries. The database brings together information from different OECD databases (for example, the OECD Social Expenditure database, the OECD Benefits and Wages database, or the OECD Education database), and databases maintained by other international organisations.

Development of the database is an ongoing process. The first batch of indicators on policies and outcomes was released in 2006. The database now has 52 online indicators containing information on the structure of families and demographic behavioural trends, public policies for families, the employment status of the latter, and child outcomes.

In 2009, this database was among the most visited websites in the Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs (ELSA), after the Health database.

How does child well-being compare across OECD countries? Chapter 2 of *Doing Better for Children* presents a child well-being framework and compares outcome indicators for children in OECD countries across six dimensions: material well-being; housing and environment; education; health; risk behaviours; and quality of school life. More via www.oecd.org/els/social/childwellbeing.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Europe.

Databases

OECD Family Database and Child Wellbeing.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

In 2010, we will expand the information base available and update some already existent indicators. This update should result in the development of data series, which is essential for monitoring the situation of families and any close study of the findings. Our aim is to develop 5 new indicators and update at least 15 existing ones.

Furthermore, the data on child well-being and corresponding policies will be brought together within a special Family database module.

Indicators from the FDB will be used for construction of country "snapshots" that will enable countries to assess their performance in different areas relative to the OECD average.

Income Distribution and Poverty

Purpose

Analysis of main trends in the distribution of incomes from 1980s, based upon the OECD Income Distribution Questionnaire (irregular time intervals, every 4-5 years).

Objectives and outputs

Following the release in October 2008 of "Growing Unequal? Income Distribution and Poverty in OECD Countries", maintenance work and adjustments were carried out on the database. A data update on late 2000s data is planned in 2010 on a key series of the questionnaire, as a basis for the 2011 Social Policy ministerial.

Databases

OECD Income Distribution questionnaire.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

A data update on late 2000s data is planned in 2010 on a key series of the questionnaire, as a basis for the 2011 Social Policy ministerial.

In 2010, it is also expected to continue to gather comparable results for the accession countries, on the basis of the Income Distribution Questionnaire.

Data management:

metadata in:

<http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=INEQUALITY>

<http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=POVERTY>

are regularly updated following comments from users.

Social Indicators

Purpose

Social indicators have been developed to provide the broad perspective needed for any international comparison and assessment of social trends, outcomes and policies. By linking social status and social response indicators across a broad range of policy areas, social indicators help to identify whether and how the broad thrust of social policies and societal actions are addressing key social policy issues.

Objectives and outputs

The fifth edition of "Society at a Glance", the OECD report of social indicators, was released in May 2009.

This 2009 edition includes a wide range of information on social issues including demography and family characteristics, employment and unemployment, poverty and inequality, social and health care expenditure, and work and life satisfaction. In addition to updating some of the indicators included in previous editions, *Society at a Glance 2009* adds some new, innovative social indicators. These include indicators of adult height, perceived health status, risky youth behaviour and bullying. For the first time, *Society at a Glance* provides a new, condensed set of headline social indicators summarising social well-being and its recent trends. A special chapter includes a consideration of leisure time across the OECD.

Society at a Glance - Asia/Pacific Edition 2009, a joint OECD/Korea Policy Centre publication, was also published in 2009 - it offers a concise quantitative overview of social trends and policies across Asia-Pacific economies.

Databases

Social indicators.

Main Developments for 2010

Data collection:

Data update every other year (data update in 2010).

h6. 3.3.3 Information society

Information Communication Technology

Purpose

To develop statistical methodology, indicators and analysis of the information society that provides insight for policy making.

Objectives and outputs

Statistics for the information society are developed following a "building block" approach. Methodological work and data collection have proceeded in several areas at different speeds, in a step-by-step fashion, by looking first at supply side statistics for the information society (statistics on the ICT sector), and then at the demand side (ICT usage statistics). The methodological work entails the development of the following guidelines and model surveys: the OECD definition of the ICT sector (1998), the OECD definitions of electronic commerce transactions (2000) and their guidelines for implementation (2001), the OECD Model survey on ICT usage in business (2005), the OECD Model survey on ICT usage by households/individuals (2005), the OECD ICT goods definition (2003), and the Guide to Measuring the Information Society (2005, revised in 2007).

The measurement work involves the production of internationally comparable and policy relevant indicators for measuring the supply and demand for ICT sector, ICT infrastructure, related services, content, applications and, in particular, electronic commerce. Data collection and the development of new indicators are carried out on an ad hoc basis in order to aid policy formulation and enable monitoring of progress related to the information society. Data collections of ICT indicators related to the ICT sector (supply statistics) and to ICT use and electronic commerce (demand statistics) are ongoing and metadata information on methodologies and survey vehicles used by member countries is being collected. The indicators are used in periodical OECD publications such as the "Information Technology Outlook", the "Communications Outlook", and the biennial "STI Scoreboard" as well as "OECD Key ICT indicators" available online and updated on a rolling basis. A comprehensive overview of information society indicators based on official statistics was provided in "Measuring the Information Economy 2002" (MIE 2002), available online free of charge. MIE 2002 is a Web book and one can click on the data in excel spreadsheets underlying the charts and figures, or print the .pdf file. An update of some of these indicators was published in the new edition of the STI Scoreboard (2007), also available free of charge online and in the "OECD Key ICT indicators".

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, India, Israel, Other, Russian Federation, Singapore.

Databases

ICT Database.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

The methodological work will focus on: update of the definition of e-commerce; micro data linking; Internet as a data source, green ICT, and technology engagement.

The analytical work will focus on: ICT-enabled innovation; ICT and knowledge diffusion; the contribution of the ICT sectors to economic growth; the determinants of ICT expenditures; and the determinants of Internet use.

Outreach to non-member OECD countries will be strengthened during 2010, in particular with China and India.

Data management:

The database has been fully loaded on OECD.STAT

3.3.4 Globalisation

Activity of Foreign Affiliates

Purpose

To measure globalisation, and the contribution of multinationals to the economic activity of countries.

Objectives and outputs

The database on Activities of Foreign Affiliates (AFA) covers variables such as employment, production or R&D in conjunction with foreign direct inward investment. This data bank has been extended to the activity of affiliates of national firms abroad (outward investment) and to the activities of parent companies in the origin countries.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Estonia, Israel, Slovenia.

Databases

Activity of Foreign Affiliates (AFA).

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Preparation of the implementation of ISIC Rev.4. Design of new questionnaires based on this industrial classification.

Globalisation Indicators: Foreign Direct Investment and Portfolio Investment

Purpose

To provide economic globalisation indicators of FDI to analyse and measure the extent of cross-border direct investment in the global market. These indicators are based on the methodology set out in the OECD "Handbook on Economic Globalisation Indicators".

Objectives and outputs

FDI indicators were completed for dissemination in 2009 as a part the publication: "Measuring Globalisation: Economic Globalisation Indicators".

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Indicators will be updated for dissemination via the Internet and the geographical coverage will be extended to candidate countries and enhanced engagement countries to the extent of data availability.

Harmonisation and Integration of statistics on Foreign Direct Investment and Activities of Multinational Enterprises

Purpose

The Council instructed the Investment Committee to take steps for the harmonisation and integration of statistics on foreign direct investment and on the activities of multinational enterprises. This work is part of the research agenda identified in the OECD Benchmark Definition of Foreign Direct Investment, 4th edition.

Objectives and outputs

The objective is to enable users to analyse the financial and economic variables of multinational enterprises by providing comprehensive guidance and by improving the methodologies of AMNE statistics in the light of revisions of other international standards. The exercise seeks improvements for comprehensive FDI and AMNE statistics which can be analysed in tandem.

Coordination of Globalisation Statistics

Purpose

Completion of OECD's "Globalisation Cube" in OECD.Stat.

Progressive addition of other indicators.

Coordination with other OECD Directorates. Coordination with Eurostat to ensure consistency and comparability between OECD and the EU. In 2009, it has been agreed between Eurostat and the OECD to create a Joint Steering Group as from 2010 onwards.

Objectives and outputs

The goal is to unite in one cube OECDs globalisation indicators.

The Globalisation Cube contains now

- STDs trade indicators
- Trade by enterprise characteristics
- FDI
- AFA

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Progressive addition of new datasets to the Globalisation Cube

h6. 3.3.6 Sustainable development

Statistics for Sustainable Development

Purpose

To identify good concepts and practices in order to assist national governments and international organizations in the design of sustainable development indicator sets and in the development of official statistics in the area.

Objectives and outputs

A Task Force on measuring sustainable development indicators, established under the aegis of the OECD, Eurostat and the UNECE Conference of European Statisticians (CES), was established in February 2009, following the release of the report of the Working Group on Statistics for Sustainable Development in late 2008.

The objective of the new Task Force should be to further pursue the conceptual development of the capital approach in identifying indicators to present the long-term dimensions of sustainable development; to consider the distributional aspects under each capital indicator; and to focus on those indicators where further research is more likely to result in improved statistical concepts or methods.

The Task Force had its first meeting in September 2009; its next meeting will be held in late 2010. The mandate of the Task Force will extend until June 2011, when the final report will be presented at the CES plenary session.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

The 2011 report will discuss in more detail the measurement of human and social capital final, as well as additional items (e.g. international dimensions, biodiversity indicators, risks and uncertainties) not considered in the 2008 report.

3.3 Multi-domain statistics and indicators

Global Project on Measuring the Progress of Societies

Purpose

The Global Project on "Measuring the Progress of Societies" is an international, inter-organisational initiative, hosted by the OECD. Its aim is to encourage the development of indicator sets which go 'beyond GDP' to provide a comprehensive picture of societal wellbeing to inform policy makers and the public. It provides a setting for networking and advocacy, undertaking research, and delivering innovative tools to share information. The ultimate purpose of the Global Project's activities is to provide measurement tools which can support policymaking focused on increased wellbeing and societal progress.

Objectives and outputs

In 2009, the Global Project launched several new activities and continued its networking role, in particular with the successful organisation of the 3rd World Forum on "Statistics, Knowledge and Policy" in Busan, Korea. The objectives of the Project in this year were structured around 3 main pillars:

1) Encouraging discussion on what to measure when thinking about progress.

The question of "what to measure" was discussed at various thematic and regional meetings around the world. Not least, the 3rd World Forum was a great success, attracting almost 2000 participants. The issues that emerged from the Forum will help to shape the GP's work for the following biennium. Furthermore, the GP produced a 'Framework to Measure the Progress of Societies'.

2) Providing guidelines on how to measure progress.

The GP completed work on a 'Quality Framework' for developing progress indicators, which is currently under review. Several training courses have also been conducted around the world and a 'Practical Guide' on measuring progress has been completed to be released as a working paper. Work was also undertaken on how to measure specific dimension of progress, such as Trust and Vulnerability (with a Working Paper on trust being published).

3) Ensuring that progress measures are used and have an impact.

Alongside the Global Project website and other communication tools, the GP launched 'Wikiprogress' in 2009, which is a collaborative online platform that aims to become the main place where experts and practitioners can share best practice on indicator design, calculation and dissemination.

Finally, the Global Project network has continued to expand, with linkages being established with many different 'measuring progress' initiatives around the world.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Europe, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, International organisation, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Other, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

In 2010, the work of the Global Project will focus on three areas: promotion of awareness and capacity building; communication; and, research and indicators. In the first area of work, preparations will begin for the 4th World Forum, to be held in India in late 2011/early 2012. Thematic and regional events will be held throughout 2010, including a regional conference on Measuring Progress in Latin America. A joint online training course will be held in collaboration with UNITAR. In 2010, special effort will be made to involve experts and directorates from across the OECD. In terms of communication tools, particular emphasis will be given to building up the content of Wikiprogress and establishing an online community of users and contributors. Work on how IT tools can be used to communicate and disseminate statistical indicators will continue and the flagship product 'OECD Explorer' will be expanded. A Working Paper series on Measuring Progress will also be established in 2010. Finally, the Global Office as well as the OECD itself will contribute to the Global Project through a number of substantive products in the area of research and indicators. The Global Office will pursue work on measuring Vulnerability (to be completed by the end of 2010), and work on a Handbook on the Subjective Measurement of Wellbeing will be undertaken (provided the pledged funding for this project comes through). The OECD itself is putting in place or reinforcing a number of activities to follow up on the recommendations of the Commission on the

Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress (known as the 'Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi Report', launched in late 2009) including the integration of information on distribution within macro-statistics for the household sector; measuring human capital; and wellbeing and environment. The groundwork will also be laid for producing a publication which can bring together key OECD data in a 'Progress at a Glance' publication.

E-Government

Purpose

To help strengthen statistical capacity in support to the e-government project areas of work and to the preparation of the e-government peer reviews.

Objectives and outputs

The objective of the activity is to support the analysis in the area of e-government statistics, monitoring and evaluating e-government and the business case for e-government, in particular:

- Gather data supporting the OECD e-government peer review framework (challenges, leadership, implementation, collaboration frameworks, and outputs and outcomes).
- Support countries' evolving reform efforts in key areas: cost and benefit analysis, transformation.
- Provide front- and back-office indicators as part of the Government at a Glance publications.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, China, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa, Ukraine.

Databases

OECD E-government Database.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

A new set of basic OECD e-government indicators will be defined within the areas:

- Back-office.
- Performance.
- The economics of e-government.

3.4 Yearbooks and similar compendia

OECD Factbook

Purpose

To meet the needs of a wide range of users for a one-stop resource containing broadly based, comparative, country-based, economic, social and environmental data. To help users in assessing the position of a single country taking into account multiple dimensions and promoting the importance of policy coherence.

Objectives and outputs

The objective of the activity is to bring together data concerning various economic, social and environmental phenomena and highlight measurement issues, underlining areas where the comparability of statistics across countries is weak and describing initiatives undertaken to overcome these problems.

The Factbook is published both on paper and on Internet. The electronic version is made available for free and contains longer time series and more detailed metadata.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Chile, China, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

The 2010 edition will contain a special section on the crisis, based on high-frequency data. Data for accession countries will be included for the first time in the printed version. The number of series for large non-member countries has been increased.

OECD in Figures 2010

Purpose

To produce an original, simple to use, annual pocket statistical data book covering different domains.

Objectives and outputs

OECD in Figures contains key data on OECD countries, ranging from economic growth and employment to trade and migration. There are comparable tables on the environment, science and public finances. For added perspective, OECD in Figures includes a selection of graphs, giving snapshots on subjects such as GDP, education spending, services trade, health funding, development aid and renewable energy.

4. Methodology of data collection, processing, dissemination and analysis (OECD)

4.1 Metadata

Glossary of Statistical Terms

Purpose

The aims of the OECD Glossary of Statistical Terms are:

- to provide a highly visible and readily accessible source of statistical terminology and definitions that are derived from international standards for use by OECD author areas in the development of questionnaires and other data collection instruments and for inclusion in published output. The Glossary also has wide application for external government and non-government agencies;
- to provide a set of target definitions based on existing international statistical standards that will ultimately be linked to data located in the OECD's Statistical Information System (SIS);
- to be the catalyst for the development of consistent international statistical standards by highlighting existing inconsistencies between existing standards.

Objectives and outputs

The OECD Glossary of Statistical Terms contains a comprehensive set of definitions of the main data items collected by the Organisation. The Glossary also contains definitions of key terminology and concepts and commonly used acronyms.

Over 6 700 definitions currently included in the glossary are primarily drawn from existing international statistical guidelines and recommendations that have been prepared over the last two or three decades by international organisations such as the OECD, IMF, ILO, Eurostat, United Nations working with national statistical institutes.

Work in 2007 entailed the addition of new definitions prepared by a number of OECD statistical working parties and expert groups, as well as definitions published by other international organisations, and the insertion of extensive information into the "context" field of the glossary, explaining the uses and limitations of many of the definitions included.

New Glossary facilities include the possibility to identify new definitions included in the Glossary or existing definitions modified. The facility to download the entire Glossary from the web in as a WORD file and PDF has also been developed.

References to the Glossary is now included in over 170 000 web pages of national statistical agencies, central banks and academic institutes.

Databases

OECD Glossary of Statistical Terms.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Insertion of new definitions reflecting the continuing activities of various expert groups and working parties both within the OECD and other international organisations.

Development of facility to enable users to download Glossary contents into SDMX-ML and XML.

4.2 Classifications

4.3.2 Business and agricultural censuses and registers

Administrative Data for Short-term Statistics Framework

Purpose

To provide National Statistical Offices with a dynamic framework including guidelines and recommended practice on the use of administrative data in the compilation of short-term economic statistics. This has been achieved via an interactive webpage.

Objectives and outputs

In recent years a number of National Statistical Offices (NSOs) have started to seriously investigate the use of administrative data in the compilation of short-term economic statistics. These investigations have led NSOs to also ask how to ensure that their organisation is getting the full benefit for short-term economic statistics from the administrative data they currently use and from administrative data that is available but not currently used.

The use of administrative data for short-term economic statistics has three key challenges: timeliness, accuracy and coverage. The use of administrative data is seen to provide three key advantages for short-term economic statistics: reduction of response burden, census coverage, limited cost.

A Task Force was established under the auspices of the Short-Term Economic Statistics Working Party (STESWP), with the aim of developing a dynamic framework on how to maximise the benefits that the use of administrative data can provide.

The initial undertaking was to check within their own NSOs for previously published papers or articles. The initial outline of the project was prepared and discussed at the June 2006 meeting of STESWP. Based on this feedback, it was agreed that two parallel frameworks should be developed:

- a framework which gives advice on how to start the process of using administrative data (legal framework, cooperation etc.)
- another framework on best practices for using administrative data with a focus on compiling short-term economic statistics

This framework was finalised after the June 2007 STESWP meeting. The 2008 meeting agreed that the framework was useful and as such should be updated annually.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

No major changes.

Business Registers

Purpose

To contribute to reinforce statistical systems and allow better globalisation analysis through the upstream design of better integrated business registers and links to administrative sources.

Objectives and outputs

Provide a forum for discussion/contribute to expert fora addressing the design and concrete implementation of registers, including multinational registers.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

As present chair of the Wiesbaden group, OECD will assist Estonia in 2010 to organise the 22nd Wiesbaden Group meeting to be held in September 2010 in Tallinn.

4.5 Dissemination, data warehousing

Journal of Business Cycle Measurement and Analysis

Purpose

To exchange knowledge and information on the theory and operation of business and economic cycle research, including both statistical measurement and analytical aspects.

Objectives and outputs

The themes covered by the Journal comprise: analysis and explanation of cyclical fluctuations; business cycle specification, definition and classification; statistical approaches to the development of short-term economic statistics and indicators; business tendency, investment and consumer surveys; use of survey data or cyclical indicators for business cycle analysis.

The Journal is closely linked to the well known statistical and methodological research work carried out in this area by the OECD and by the Centre for International Research on Economic Tendency Surveys (CIRET), in particular to the work produced by the OECD Short-Term Economic Statistics Working Party (STESWP) and by joint research in economic statistics with other institutions such as the European Commission and Eurostat, whereas CIRET encompasses a wide variety of researchers whose work results in the most up-to-date insights in this field.

The Journal also provides a calendar of conferences, along with e-information and book reviews which are of interest and within its scope.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Typesetting the journal is expected to be carried out by PAC with the following changes to production/dissemination: article-by-article publishing (printed issues will follow later); a single proofing cycle; a layout that conforms to standard OECD format.

OECD Statistical DataWarehouse (OECD.Stat)

Purpose

OECD.Stat is the core element of the OECD Statistical Information System as it is the central repository and retrieval tool for the Organisation's statistical information resources. OECD.Stat is designed to contain the validated datasets to be shared and/or published, a special dataset for "Reference Series", all the statistical metadata associated with these datasets, and the glossary of statistical terms.

Objectives and outputs

OECD.Stat consists of a closed data warehouse with its standard entry and exit gates and a user front end (web browser). OECD.Stat is the basis of the new corporate tools for the statistical publications and electronic dissemination.

The main objectives and benefits for statisticians are: improved efficiency of statistical processes; improved quality, timeliness, visibility and accessibility of OECD's statistical resources; harmonisation effect of statistical classifications etc.; new and easier horizontal data products such as "Statistical Yearbook" and "OECD in Figures"; simplified and harmonised user access right management.

The data warehouse is physically independent from production systems and permits an easier management of connections from production databases (when new database versions or platforms), avoiding multiple interlinks between different production platforms.

Main objectives and benefits for analysts are: fast and user-friendly tools for locating and retrieving verified statistical data and metadata; availability of Reference Series and joint display of data from different OECD sources; easier interpretability of data; easier gathering of data to

support horizontal projects; pre-defined executive reports; accessibility in-house and on the Internet without additional installations.

Today, about 95% of the OECD datasets are loaded into the OECD.Stat Data warehouse.

Respecting well-defined access right limitations, the data is available to specific users and groups within the OECD, to all OECD Staff, to member countries government staff via the OLISnet service, to the general public on the Internet, to specific public MyOECD users and to registered customers via the iLibrary commercial channel.

The OECD.Stat datawarehouse can also be accessed via the OECD analytical software (FAME, SAS, Stata, SPSS, Eviews) and, during the transition period to a new data archiving and CD-Rom dissemination system, includes a utility for an automated publishing of data in Beyond2020 format for the OECD commercial service (SourceOECD).

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

OECD.Stat is used by the IMF as part of a collaboration project. However, IMF is now intensively looking at a new user front end based on the Prognoz platform. This might have an impact on our developments in 2010. Many other international organisations, Central banks and National Statistical Offices are also investigating sharing the system. This needs a significant support activity.

Main focus this year will be on consolidation and upgrade of software platform (Windows Server 2008 R2), a new embargo feature, a snapshot feature, revised SDMX metadata output, a new display of unit information, and new data visualisation tools, like dynamic maps.

Publishing from the Statistical Information System

Purpose

To provide a publishing environment for the production of statistical publications and create new statistics dissemination services in the framework of the OECD Statistical Information System. This project creates three new services to disseminate statistics from OECD.Stat. The services include publishing complete databases, ready-made key tables and facts and figures indicators with dynamic graphs and commentary. The publishing environment comprises an authoring tool where the table is defined by the authors, and a formatting engine where the data are extracted from OECD.Stat and formatted for multiple outputs such as paper, PDF, Excel and HTML. The environment improves the efficiency of the publishing process and the quality of final publications in print and electronic format.

Objectives and outputs

Produce publications through the new process from databases available in the central database OECD.Stat. Continue to develop new procedures to take into account specificities of these new publications. Create new services to disseminate statistics using data from OECD.Stat. In 2009, improvements in the OECD.Stat browser were made available on the OECD iLibrary (soon to replace SourceOECD). The complete databases were made available to users in the preliminary OECD iLibrary platform. A pilot set of key tables and facts and figures were published. Statistical editors worked with directorates to review and improve the quality of the data and metadata being disseminated from the central data warehouse. Regarding statistical publications, the new publishing environment was used in 2009 to publish updates of publications already produced out of OECD.Stat in 2008 and to apply the new procedures to a number of additional statistical publications. The new publishing environment was communicated to authors.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

In 2010, improvements in the OECD.Stat browser will be made available on the OECD iLibrary website. The complete database services will be moved into production and made available to users on the new OECD iLibrary platform. Regarding statistical publications, the new publishing environment will be used in 2010 to publish updates of publications already produced out of OECD.Stat in 2009 and to apply the new procedures to a number of additional statistical publications. Further objectives of 2010 aim to continue to communicate the new publishing environment to authors.

4.6 Statistical confidentiality and disclosure protection

Pension Monitoring

Purpose

In order to ensure that pension reforms are both financially and socially sustainable, it is essential to monitor the outcomes of changes in pension system parameters and rules. The activity uses a microeconomic approach which is particularly suitable for international comparison of pension policies. Prospective individual benefit entitlements from mandatory pension arrangements are modelled for full-career workers at different earnings levels. The framework uses the same economic assumptions for all countries and thereby abstracts from non-pension factors, which often distort international comparisons of pension systems.

Objectives and outputs

To monitor pension systems and pension policies in OECD countries, to collect, up-date and analyse information on pension system rules and parameters and to model prospective pension entitlements for standard retirement, early retirement and interrupted careers. The output of this activity is published in regularly updated reports.

The third edition of Pensions at a Glance will be published in 2009. The report includes updates of the models with 2006 parameters, including a special chapter covering the impact of the current financial crisis.

In 2009:

- Key data were disseminated in OECD.Stat via <http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=ELSPENSIONS>
- an on-line Pension calculator was created, via http://www.oecd.org/document/12/0,3343,en_2649_34757_43024076_1_1_1_1,00.html
- most indicators related to pensions are available on-line in MS-Excel format via www.oecd.org/els/social/pensions/PAG#data

The fourth edition of Pensions at a Glance will be published in 2010. The report will include updates of the models with 2008 parameters,

including special chapters on Trends in retirement ages and life expectancy, Linking pensions to life expectancy, and Retirement incentives in pension systems.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Romania, Slovenia.

Databases

Pension monitoring database.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Work on the topic "Women and Pensions" will go on in 2010, with a view to producing a policy report early 2011. The first key question to be addressed is whether pension systems that were introduced 50 or more years ago - in an era of male breadwinners and women working in the home - have kept pace with social and economic changes. Despite these changes, women still tend to have lower wages and work fewer hours than men. To what extent do pension systems compensate for these differences? To what extent should they continue to do so?

Data management:

The number of indicators covered in the data will be increased leading to the creation of a pensions database.

5. Strategic and managerial issues of official statistics (OECD)

5.1 Institutional frameworks and principles, role and organisation of official statistics

OECD Enlargement

Purpose

1. Following the support provided in 2009 to the Committee on Statistics in its evaluation of the statistical programs of four countries selected for possible membership in the OECD (Chile, Estonia, Israel and Slovenia), to ensure the integration of statistics related to these countries in the Organisation's reporting and information systems upon accession and to assist with and monitor improvements to their statistical systems and statistics as required. 2. To co-ordinate reviews of the statistical system and statistics of the Russian Federation (RF) in order to assist Council in taking an informed decision on whether to invite RF to accede to the OECD Convention and become a Member. To collect and review data and metadata from Russian statistical authorities in order to support the examination of economic and other policies by the OECD Committees. 3. Also, to improve and expand the statistical co-operation with the five "enhanced engagement" countries (Brazil, India, Indonesia, China and South Africa). 4. Furthermore, to co-ordinate the development of statistics for G20 countries or other non-members of relevance for the organisation.

Objectives and outputs

This activity is to support the Committee on Statistics in its evaluation of the statistical system and statistics of the Russian Federation, a country selected for possible membership in the OECD. To help the candidate countries integration in the Organisation's reporting and information systems upon accession. The Enlargement Activity will also engage exchanges with the "enhanced engagement" (EE) countries in order to improve our understanding of their statistical policies and programs, and co-ordinate the development of working level statistical projects involving EE countries and OECD Members.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, China, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Co-ordination of the development of statistics for G20 or other new areas, promote an enhanced statistical co-operation with Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, South Africa and with Argentina and South Arabia as members of G20.

5.3 Quality frameworks and measurement of performance of statistical systems and offices

Development and Implementation of the OECD Quality Framework

Purpose

To enhance the quality of OECD statistics, to provide a systematic mechanism for ongoing identification and resolution of quality problems, to increase the transparency of the processes used by the OECD to assure quality, to reinforce the political role of the OECD in the context of an information society.

Objectives and outputs

The framework focuses on improving the quality of data collected, compiled and disseminated by the OECD through an improvement of the Organisation's processes and management, though there will be a positive spillover effect on the quality of data compiled at national level. The framework is composed of four elements: a definition of quality and its dimensions; a procedure for assuring the quality of proposed new statistical activities; a procedure for evaluating the quality of existing statistical activities on a regular basis; and internal quality guidelines covering all phases of the statistical production process.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

In 2010, a number of Quality Reviews of OECD Statistical Activities will be carried out as in previous years.

5.4 Management and development of human resources

Statistical Training Programme

Purpose

To develop and maintain a programme of training seminars on statistics and on economics, to include: a programme of regular courses provided by OECD staff; a dynamic timetable of events such as seminars/workshops provided by staff and visiting speakers; liaison with other agencies providing training, e-learning materials, and a statistical "knowledge base"; sessions to welcome newcomers (both analysts and statisticians) at the OECD.

The events are aimed at both compilers/managers of data and users, and may be open to both OECD staff and external participants.

Objectives and outputs

This initiative was launched in early 2001, and has been carried forward by an OECD-wide co-ordination group which reports to the SPG. All statistical staff was surveyed in 2004, in 2007 and in 2008 to identify their statistical training needs. The programme of regular training courses and one-off seminars were adjusted to address the needs of staff. Regular courses are available covering drafting for statisticians, visual organisation of information, national accounts, productivity measures and seasonal adjustments. IT courses covering OECD specific software such as STD browsers, OECD.Stat, MetaStore, Data Provider Interface and more generic techniques are also provided on a regular basis. One-off workshops and seminars are organised during the year.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

In September 2009, the activity of the Statistical Training Advisory Group was momentarily suspended due to HR restructurings and recent staff movements in OECD Directorates.

5.5 Technological resources (including standards for electronic data exchange and data sharing)

Framework for Information Exchange in Local Development

Purpose

To support local governments and development agencies to collect, analyse and use data on their local economic and employment development policy challenges and impacts.

To support them in benchmarking their local economic and employment policy performance and the quality of their information systems with peers in other countries.

Objectives and outputs

The principal objectives are to support a selected group of local development organisations to improve the information systems they use in the design of the local economic and employment development policies and to enable the international exchange of information on policy challenges and performance.

It is planned to achieve this objective through:

- Workshops with selected local development organisations to identify the strengths and weaknesses of their current information systems and recommend actions they may take to improve these systems and the evidence base they provide.
- Peer exchanges among local development organisations operating in similar contexts to facilitate mutual learning on how to improve information systems.
- Exchange of standardised information fiches on local development performance, the drivers and enablers of this performance and the impacts of policy.
- Disseminating guidance to a wide audience of local development organisations on typical gaps and problems in information systems and how to remedy them.
- A series of thematic workshops on approaches to measuring skills, social exclusion, entrepreneurship and innovation at local level.

The work undertaken in 2009-10 will result in: i) sets of recommendations for each participating locality on how to strengthen their information systems, and ii) A manual for local policy makers on how to build information systems allowing to monitor local economic performance, identify policy need and measure policy impacts.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Latvia.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

No major changes.

5.6 Coordination of international statistical work

Services Statistics Co-ordination

Purpose

In response to the increasing importance of services in modern economies, and a request from UN Statistical Commission, the activity seeks to coordinate and raise awareness of international development work on services statistics that takes place in a wide variety of expert groups in OECD and in other agencies.

Within OECD a further aim is to provide support as required to database managers in improving dissemination of data on services.

Objectives and outputs

A progress and strategy report is provided to the UN Statistical Commission at its request.

CSTAT, WPTGS and other WPs as required to develop an OECD-wide view on service statistics developments and requirements (see 7. Purpose). SPG involvement needed.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Chile, China, India, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

a) Implement the revision decisions of IMTS 2010 and MSITS 2010, in which trade processing is allocated to services trade and not any longer to merchandise trade

b) Develop a new classification for integrated goods and services trade by product

c) Evaluate and promote services integration into trade by enterprise characteristics (combination of trade and structural business statistics at micro level)

Produce a report for UNSC if required.

Co-ordination of OECD Statistical Activities

Purpose

To co-ordinate OECD statistical programmes with Eurostat, ECE, IMF, UN and other organisations with respect to both data collection and the development of international statistical standards.

To increase the visibility of statistical activities carried out by the OECD and to co-ordinate internal OECD statistical activities to improve the quality of statistics and the efficiency of the OECD statistical organisation.

Objectives and outputs

Collaborate with other Directorates of the Organisation, with national data providers and with other international organisations to: reinforce the quality of OECD statistical data and the efficiency of statistical activities across the Organisation; improve data collection and data provision on member countries, increase the visibility of OECD statistical work; and contribute to the development of the international statistical system.

Co-ordinate the preparation of and publishing of the annual OECD statistical programme of work.

Improvement in the consistency of data collected and disseminated by the OECD through the development of the OECD statistical information system and co-ordination of the migration of existing statistical activities towards the new statistical information system. Provide linkages with similar facilities in other international organisations and national agencies.

Further improve relationships with national statistical activities and improve international co-operation between OECD member countries in the area of statistics through the OECD Committee on Statistics, composed of Heads of National Statistical Agencies.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Brazil, Chile, China, India, Russian Federation, South Africa.

Databases

OECD statistical programme of work.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

Following completion of accession activities for four countries in 2009, 2010 will see continuation of the accession activities with Russia. A special coordination effort will be made regarding enhanced engagement countries.

The OECD is also active in the implementation of the strategy developed by the UN Committee on Co-ordination of Statistical Activities to further strengthen the international statistical system.

5.7 Technical cooperation and capacity building programmes

PARIS21 Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century

Purpose

PARIS21 is a partnership of national, regional and international statisticians, policy makers, analysts, development professionals and other users and producers of statistics, including civil society. PARIS21's goal is to develop a culture of evidence-based policy making and implementation which serves to improve governance and government effectiveness in reducing poverty and achieving the Millennium Development Goals

(MDGs).

Objectives and outputs

PARIS21 activities focus on assisting all low-income countries in the design, implementation, and monitoring of National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS). PARIS21 carries out this work through advocacy, methodology and documentation, and regional programmes. Advocacy activities have included the creation of videos featuring high-profile policy makers and development professionals discussing the importance of statistics in poverty reduction decision-making processes. PARIS21's methodological work includes the development of documentation and methodological guidance intended to assist countries in their NSDS processes. PARIS21's regional programmes include the organisation of regional workshops to take forward the NSDS design process. The workshops and follow-on national programmes assist countries to plan strategically for the overall development of the countries' entire statistical system and to address immediate and longer-term information needs for setting and monitoring policy in the context of poverty reduction strategies.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Asia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Ecuador, Estonia, Georgia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Other, Peru, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

In 2010, PARIS21 will convene a reflection group on how to address the statistical issues specific to fragile states and will launch a special programme of support (in collaboration with the FAO) on further developing the agricultural statistics component of NSDSs in three pilot countries. Throughout 2010, PARIS21 and its partners will update and enrich the NSDS guidelines to include best practices collected over the past five years.
