

World Bank

1. Demographic and social statistics (World Bank)

1.5 Income and consumption (World Bank)

Household Income and Expenditure

Database on Household Expenditure and Income Data for Transitional Economies developed as part of a project analyzing poverty and social assistance in the transition economies. The data addresses critical questions, such as the group most likely to be poor, how well social assistance programs reach people, and the kinds of programs that would most effectively reduce poverty (<http://go.worldbank.org/KTN5N3L4H0>).

Gender

Using the Bank's Development Grant Facility funds, in collaboration with UNECE, the Bank developed a critical mass of national trainers to improve sensitization of users and statisticians to the production, use, and updating of gender statistics.

- A training for trainers manual was commissioned and finalized, with topical experts from various UN agencies contributing.
- The Bank has commissioned and provided support for UNSD to finalize the Gender Statistics Handbook.
- Multi-media training modules for collecting, analyzing, and using gender data have been developed.
- A special segment on violence against women, including interviews with government officials and women leaders, was developed for advocacy purposes, in response to demand from developing countries.
- A publication of Little Data Book on Gender was produced in 2011. This handy pocket guide is a quick reference for users interested in gender statistics. The book presents gender-disaggregated data for more than 200 economies in an easy country-by-country reference on demography, education, health, labor force, political participation and the Millennium Development Goals. The book's summary pages cover regional and income group aggregates. The e-book is available from <http://data.worldbank.org/products/data-books/little-data-book-on-gender>.
- The e-Atlas of Gender is the latest in a suite of user-friendly, interactive electronic atlases, allows users to map and graph dozens of gender indicators over time and across countries. To access the application, go to <http://www.app.collinsindicate.com/worldbankatlas-gender/en>. To find-out more about various e-Atlases, see <http://data.worldbank.org/products/data-visualization-tools/eatlas>.
- World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development looks at the facts and trends surrounding the various dimensions of gender equality in the context of the development. For more information, click [here](#). For more data, visit the World Bank Data on [Gender site](#).

1.10 Political and other community activities (World Bank)

Governance indicators

The World Bank's Development Economics Vice Presidency and the World Bank Institute produce the annual database Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI). The WGI estimates six dimensions of governance covering 213 countries and territories for 1996-2010: Voice and Accountability, Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism, Government Effectiveness, Regulatory Quality, Rule of Law, and Control of Corruption. The latest aggregate indicators are based on hundreds of specific and disaggregated individual variables measuring various dimensions of governance, taken from 35 data sources provided by 33 different organizations. Individual measures of governance are assigned to categories capturing key dimensions of governance, and use an unobserved components model to construct six aggregate governance indicators. Both point estimates of the dimensions of governance as well as the margins of error are presented for each country. These margins of error are not unique to perceptions-based measures of governance, but are an important feature of all efforts to measure governance, including objective indicators. The WGI also addresses various methodological issues, including the interpretation and use of the data given the estimated margins of error, significance of changes over time, and correlation between governance and income. See the World Bank Institute's Governance website at: <http://www.govindicators.org>.

The Country Policy and Institutional Assessment exercise is carried out annually by World Bank Staff. Numerical scores of International Development Association (IDA) eligible countries, known as the IDA Resource Allocation Index (IRAI) were first publicly disclosed in June 2006. Country performance is assessed against a set of 16 criteria grouped in four clusters: economic management, structural policies, policies for social inclusion and equity, and public sector management and institutions. See the IRAI database at <http://go.worldbank.org/S2THWI1X60>.

2. Economic Statistics (World Bank)

2.2 Economic accounts (World Bank)

Gross National Income

Ongoing work:

Atlas GNI per Capita

- The World Bank estimates dollar converted gross national income (GNI) per capita for all borrowing member countries, as well as most other economies;
- Per capita GNI for a country in local currency terms is converted into U.S. dollars by applying the Atlas conversion factor. The Atlas conversion factor is the simple arithmetic average of the current exchange rate and the exchange rates in the previous two years adjusted for the ratio of domestic to international inflation. The change in the GDP-deflator is used as a measure of domestic inflation, and the change in the SDR-deflator to represent international inflation. The SDR-deflator is compiled as a weighted average of the EURO-area, United States, United Kingdom and Japan's GDP-deflators;
- The purpose of applying the Atlas conversion factor is to lessen the effect of fluctuations and abrupt changes in the exchange rate, which can be heavily affected by capital flows. Thus, income measures converted using the Atlas conversion factor tend to be more stable over time, and changes in income rankings are more likely to reflect changes in relative economic performance than exchange rate fluctuations.

National Accounts

The Bank continues its collaboration with the UN, IMF, OECD, and EUROSTAT through the Inter-Secretariat working group on national accounts (ISWGNA). The ISWGNA currently finished the work on updating the SNA, and the English version of the SNA 2008 has been published, and will be translated to all UN languages. The World Bank supports the implementation of the 2008 SNA in developing countries through activities of its regular work program of statistical capacity building. The World Bank is preparing two handbooks complementing the 2008 SNA aimed specifically at supporting national accountants in small developing countries. The first of these is the *2008 SNA - Concepts in Brief*, and the second an accompanying implementation guide, the *2008 SNA - Implementation in Brief*. The World Bank is also developing an e-learning course on National Accounts, which will be provided free of charge on the web.

2.3 Business statistics (World Bank)

Business statistics

• Doing Business

The World Bank/International Finance Corporation's Doing Business database provides objective measures of business regulations and their enforcement. The Doing Business indicators are comparable across 183 economies. They indicate the regulatory costs of business and can be used to analyze specific regulations that enhance or constrain investment, productivity and growth. Topics include: starting a business, dealing with construction permits, employing workers, registering property, getting credit, protecting investors, paying taxes, trading across borders, enforcing contracts, and closing a business. See the Doing Business website: <http://www.doingbusiness.org/> or from the Open Data site at <http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/doing-business-database>.

• Enterprise Surveys

The World Bank collects data on the business environment in 125 countries based on surveys of more than 100,000 firms. The surveys provide indicators of firm productivity and performance. Topics include: regulations and taxes, permits and licenses, corruption, crime, informal sector, gender, finance, infrastructure, innovation, trade, and work force. See the Enterprise survey website: <http://www.enterprisesurveys.org>.

• Private Participation in Infrastructure (PPI)

The PPI Project Database has data on more than 4,800 projects in 139 low- and middle-income countries. The database is the leading source of PPI trends in the developing world, covering projects in the energy, telecommunications, transport, and water and sewerage. See the PPI database: <http://ppi.worldbank.org/>.

2.4 Sectoral statistics (World Bank)

2.4.6 Banking, insurance, financial statistics (World Bank)

Financial Statistics

• The World Bank is involved in the effort to establish standards among international organizations relevant to Financial Statistics, through its active participation in the Inter-Agency Task Force on Finance Statistics. The Inter-Agency Task Force on Finance Statistics is one of the interagency task forces endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission to co-ordinate work among the participating agencies to improve the quality, transparency, timeliness and availability of data on external debt and international reserve assets. The Task Force is chaired by the IMF and includes representatives from the BIS, ECB, EUROSTAT, OECD, UN, and the World Bank which have collaborated to produce these data.

• The World Bank's Financial Sector has published a comprehensive database of national Financial Sector Development Indicators including key data on banking, equity markets, and bond markets.

2.6 International trade and balance of payments (World Bank)

External Debt Statistics

• The World Bank's Debt Reporting System (DRS) requires every member country, which has received either an IBRD loan or an IDA credit to provide information on its external debt. The borrowing countries are required to report their long-term external debt on the following forms:

- i) Form 1 - Description of Individual External Public Debt and Private Debt Publicly Guaranteed which consists of information on each loan characteristics, such as commitment date, amount of loan commitment, loan purpose, interest rate, and terms and conditions of payments;
- ii) Form 1A - Schedule of Drawings and Principal and Interest Payments for Individual External Public Debt and Private Debt Publicly Guaranteed, purpose of which is to enable the Bank to make projections of future payments of principal and interest for those loans that have irregular patterns of repayments;
- iii) Form 2 - Individual External Public Debts and Private Debts Publicly Guaranteed: Current Status and Transactions During Period. This form contains loan-by-loan information on debt stocks and debt flows during the reporting period;
- iv) Form 3 - To contain specific amendments to Forms 1 and 2;
- v) Form 4 - External Private Non-Guaranteed Debt to include aggregate stocks and flows data on long-term external private non-guaranteed debt.

• The World Bank has been working closely with the Commonwealth secretariat and the UNCTAD to improve the data collection across the globe.

• The Joint External Debt Hub (JEDH) brings together external debt data and selected foreign assets from international creditor/market and national debtor sources and was recently expanded to include data from Berne Union Data will be expanded to include additional indicators from Paris Club and IMF's SDR allocations. The creditor/market data are complemented in the JEDH by series from the World Bank's Quarterly External Debt Database from national sources. National data has been extended to not only SDDS/QEDS countries but also GSSD/QEDS countries. Data are updated on a quarterly basis. As a pilot project of the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX), JEDH applies technological innovation to the context and content of information being exchanged with the aim of generating efficiencies through the convergence of data flows into a common framework. The Bank is also working in collaboration with the IMF and other partners to improve statistics on remittance flows to developing countries. The system is accessible from: <http://www.jedh.org>.

- **The Quarterly External Debt (QEDS)** database, jointly developed by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, brings together detailed external debt data of countries that subscribe to the IMF's **Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS)** and **General Data Dissemination System (GDDS)**. The benefit of bringing together comparable external debt data for a large number of SDDS-subscribing countries in one central location is to facilitate macroeconomic analysis and cross-country data comparison. Sixty six SDDS countries (66) and forty four GDDS countries are currently participating in this initiative. The system is accessible from: <http://www.worldbank.org/qeds>.

- The Quarterly Public Sector Debt Statistics (QPSD) database, jointly developed by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, brings together detailed quarterly public sector debt data of selected developing /emerging market countries. The main purpose of the PSD database is to facilitate timely dissemination in standard formats of public sector debt data. By bringing such data and metadata together in one central location, the database supports macroeconomic analysis and cross-country comparison. The participation of countries in this centralized database is voluntary. Currently, 62 developing countries have agreed to participate and 34 provided data to the PSD database. The World Bank and IMF in cooperation with OECD will invite the advanced economies to join this initiative starting in the year 2012. The database is updated quarterly and within one month of the end of a quarter. These databases aim to support countries' efforts toward improving the coverage and availability of public sector debt data. The system is accessible from: <http://www.worldbank.org/qpsd>.

- DECDG also published the Global Development Finance 2012: External Debt of Developing Countries, which is a continuation of the World Bank's publications Global Development Finance, Volume II (1997 through 2009), it contains statistical tables for 129 countries as well as summary tables for regional and income groups. To find-out more, go to <http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/global-development-finance>.

Foreign Trade Statistics

Ongoing work:

The web-based **World Integrated Trade Solution (WITS)** is a software developed by the World Bank, in close collaboration and consultation with various International Organizations including United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), International Trade Center (ITC), United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD) and World Trade Organization (WTO). This new software does not require installation and it is fully web-based. WITS gives you access to major international trade, tariffs and non-tariff data:

- The United Nations COMTRADE database maintained by UNSD
- The **TRAINS** maintained by the UNCTAD;
- The **IDB** and **CTS** databases maintained by the WTO.

The merchandise trade data is based on bilateral trade between every reporting and trading partner. Tariff and non-tariff data are from UNCTAD files. The system also provides tariff data from WTO's IDB and CTS databases. In addition, WITS contains simulation tools that are extremely useful for trade negotiations. Users can simulate the impact of tariff changes on trade flows. To access the new WITS, visit <http://wits.worldbank.org/WITS/>.

In addition to the software, the Bank launched two new trade visualizers. Users can view their data using bubble charts and the map visualizer. "Bubble charts" display data in four dimensions. In each chart, the size of the country circle represents a volume measure, such as population or GDP. The position of the bubbles is determined by the indicators selected for the horizontal and vertical axes. The visualizer can be accessed from <http://devdata.worldbank.org/TradeVisualizer/>. The "map visualizer" animates the export and import trade data from the UNSD COMTRADE database by commodity and partner country from 1988-2008. It can be accessed from <http://devdata.worldbank.org/TradeMapVisualizer/DataVisualizer.html>.

2.7 Prices (World Bank)

International Comparison Programme

- The International Comparison Program is a global statistical initiative under the auspices of the United Nations Statistical Commission, designed to collect comparative price data and compile detailed expenditure values of countries' gross domestic products (GDP), and to estimate purchasing power parities (PPPs) of the world's economies. It contributes substantially towards the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations by improving the reliability of estimates of those living in poverty and enabling more accurate comparisons of GDP and component levels across countries.

- The number of participating economies has grown to 198 in the current round, up from 146 in the 2005 ICP round. This round covers about 98 percent of the world population. According to information provided by ICP regions and OECD-Eurostat programme in October 2011, 155 countries have started survey in the 1st or 2nd quarter of 2011, out of 198 countries identified to participate in the program. Countries in Pacific Islands and Caribbean Islands are expected to conduct their price survey in 2012. The Global Office is expecting to receive validated 1st and 2nd quarter data from the ICP Regions by December 31, 2011.

- The overall work plan remains effectively on schedule and the final results are expected to be released in December 2013 as originally planned. The Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) is coordinating participation of 10 countries to the International Comparison Program. Activities for this region include collection of prices and National accounts data and processing of Purchasing Power Parities.

- In accordance with the ICP work schedule, in the CIS region, all 10 CIS participating countries have started to collect the data on prices for ICP in January of 2011. During the period from October 2010, to November 2011, major activities carried out in the CIS region included regional meetings on the regional list of consumer items and issues pertaining to the computation of GDP estimates.

- The meeting on the problems of achieving reliability and comparability of GDP data in national currencies on the basis of SNA 1993 was held in Moscow from November 30 to December 2, 2010. It was jointly organized by CIS-STAT and Rosstat and attended by two experts from each CIS country responsible for national accounts and price statistics respectively.

- The meeting on the preparation of the regional list was held in Astana (Kazakhstan) on November 8, 2011. It was attended by statistical experts from: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, and a representative of CIS-STAT.

- The meeting on harmonization of investment representative goods was held on March 23-25, 2011 in Moscow, Russia. The CIS regional list for machinery and equipment was discussed at the meeting. Methodological issues and specifications of construction materials were also discussed and the participants confirmed the use of the resource-technological models method (RTM), a method harmonized with the standard ICP methodology. The metadata tables recommended by the Global Office will be translated and sent to the countries in order to obtain their filled tables by June 2011.

For more information, please see <http://www.worldbank.org/data/icp>.

3. Environment and multi-domain statistics (World Bank)

3.1 Environment (World Bank)

Environmental Indicators

- The 2012 edition of the World Development Indicators (WDI), the annual World Bank statistical flagship publication, will include an updated and expanded set of 18 tables on environmental indicators covering some 150 countries. Its accompanying CD-ROM includes time series data for more than 200 countries. In addition to the print edition, these data series are also available on the WDI Databank (<http://databank.worldbank.org/ddp/home.do>), as well as the Open Data website and APIs (<http://data.worldbank.org/>) under the following four topics; Agriculture & Rural Development; Climate Change; Energy & Mining; and Environment. In addition, the recently launched Climate Change Knowledge Portal (<http://data.worldbank.org/climate-change>) covers a wide array of information and data at the country and regional levels related to this subject. To find-out more about the Climate Change Portal. See <http://data.worldbank.org/climate-change>.
- Furthermore, two other publications on environmental indicators; The Little Green Data Book; and The Little Data Book on Climate Change, are published annually under close collaboration between the staff of the Development Data Group of the Development Economics Vice Presidency (DECDG), the Environment Department of the Sustainable Development Vice Presidency (ENV), and the Global Facility for Disaster reduction and Recovery (GFDRR). To access the books, go to <http://data.worldbank.org/products/data-books/little-data-book-on-climate-change> and <http://data.worldbank.org/products/data-books/little-data-book/little-green-data-book>.
- The World Bank contributes to the development of core and supplementary environmental indicators for monitoring progress toward the Millennium Development Goals through the Environment subgroup of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on the MDGs.
- A section of the environmental database is now available electronically on the World Bank's Environment Department website. The database includes, among others, the ECE countries and it is annually updated from various sources inside and outside the World Bank. Go to <http://www.worldbank.org/environment> and select Data & Statistics from the left navigation bar.
- The World Bank works with the UN Statistics Division in this area and continues to support initiatives in the field of environmental Work in this area has been bolstered by the development of accompanying indicators of environmental change including estimation of Adjusted Net Savings (genuine savings) and new estimates of the natural resources rents for more than 140 countries. These estimates are being published in the World Development Indicators and are also available in open data websites.

Priority objectives:

- Development of core environmental indicators for monitoring progress toward the international development goals adopted by the World Bank, United Nations and the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD.
- Publication of environmental indicators through the World Development Indicators and the Environment Department website.
- Updated on a yearly basis. New products to be showcased in the website include environment at-a-glance fact sheets by country.
- The World Bank will continue to provide expertise on green accounting and the measurement of sustainable development through its participation in activities with UNECE and other international groups.

3.2 Regional and small area statistics (World Bank)

Sub-national Statistics

New Activities

The Development Data Group of the World Bank is involved in maintaining, documenting, and incorporating sub-national data into its databases. We will be augmenting the World Development Indicators CD-ROM product to support mapping and charting of sub-national data.

3.3 Multi-domain statistics and indicators (World Bank)

Infrastructure Indicators

Ongoing work:

The World Bank's Development Data Group (DECDG) along with the Sustainable Development Vice-Presidency and the various sector and regional offices have developed a core set of infrastructure indicators and systematic database covering the energy, water & sanitation, transport, and ICT sectors to also be used to monitor project, country, and global policies & performance. Country tables on ICT, sourced mainly from the ITU, can be accessed from the World Bank's external Data site at <http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/ICT-table>.

3.3.1 Living conditions, poverty and cross-cutting social issues

Poverty Statistics

- In keeping with its Open Data Initiative to make more of its information accessible to the general public, the World Bank has launched an innovative data portal where visitors can query and download national or regional poverty statistics, use Apps to view and map trends in poverty and inequality, and view trends over time. The new Poverty & Equity Data site at povertydata.worldbank.org offers visitors easily comparable statistics that is critical for anybody seeking to keep poverty reduction on the world's agenda.

- New estimates of global poverty were the first re-evaluation of the World Bank's "\$1 a day" poverty line since 1999. The international poverty line has been recalibrated at \$1.25 a day, using new data on purchasing power parities (PPPs), compiled by the International Comparison Program, and an expanded set of household income and expenditure surveys. New measurements of the extent and depth of poverty are presented for 115 developing countries, along with poverty measurements based on their national poverty lines.
- The World Bank does an overall assessment every three years of progress against absolute poverty in the developing world, based on household surveys. The last estimates were done in 2008 and covered the period 1981-2005. The latest update has just been completed. This draws on over 800 household surveys for 126 countries and the Purchasing Power Parity rates for 2005 from the International Comparison Program. The new estimates go up to 2008, which is the latest year for which reliable survey-based estimates are possible. These new estimates will be finalized for public release early in 2012.
- The World Bank will continue its theoretical and practical work in the area of measuring and analysing income poverty, as well as efforts in developing tools to measure the many other dimensions of poverty. In the past few years the WB prepared a Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRSP) Source Book, which is designed as a handbook for the 42 PRSP countries (9 of them are in the ECE region) in developing their strategy for poverty alleviation. A considerable part of the book is focused on the issues of data on poverty, poverty measurement, and poverty monitoring. The Bank will continue maintenance and updating of databases on Poverty developed to assist countries in monitoring poverty trends and embarking on strategies to help them reduce poverty. The aim is to help countries reach the Strategy 21 goals of fostering economic well-being and social development. They include:
Poverty Monitoring Database provides quick access to comprehensive poverty information. Its main components are:
i) Information on household surveys: key features and general information on income/consumption surveys conducted recently. The information sheets indicate whether household survey data are available to the general public. Links to the data set are provided when they are available on the web;
ii) Poverty Assessment Summaries conducted by the World Bank since 1993;
iii) Participatory Poverty Assessments, which provide basic information on assessments conducted by the Bank and other institutions;
PovcalNet is an interactive computational tool that allows users to replicate the calculations made by the World Bank's researchers in estimating the extent of absolute poverty in the world. It allows one to calculate the poverty measures under different assumptions and to assemble the estimates using alternative country groupings or for any set of individual countries of their choosing. (<http://go.worldbank.org/NT2A1XUWP0>).
- Training of statisticians and policy makers on how to use household survey data for analysis and policy is and will continue to be provided by the World Bank Institute on a regional basis. Country specific training on analysis is carried out under several LSMS projects and under Poverty Assessments.
- The Bank will continue maintenance and updating of databases on Poverty developed to assist countries in monitoring poverty trends and embarking on strategies to help them reduce poverty. The aim is to help countries reach the Strategy 21 goals of fostering economic well-being and social development.
 - Poverty Monitoring Database (<http://go.worldbank.org/CVC2XGIIH0>)
 - Living Standards Measurement Study Survey Database <http://www.worldbank.org/lsmis/>
 - Database on Household Expenditure and Income Data for Transitional Economies (<http://go.worldbank.org/KTN5N3L4H0>)
 - PovcalNet <http://go.worldbank.org/NT2A1XUWP0>.

See: <http://www.worldbank.org/data/topic/poverty> for more information.

3.3.5 Indicators related to the Millennium Development Goals MDG Indicators

- In collaboration with other international agencies the World Bank is working to strengthen the system to monitor progress towards the Millennium Development Goals. At the international level, efforts are continuing to improve poverty and education data and to promote greater coordination in the compilation and dissemination of data on the MDG indicators. At the national level, efforts are under way to strengthen the capacity of countries to report on progress towards the goals and to document the statistical methods and procedures used. The Bank maintains a web site on Millennium Development Goals (MDG). MDGs grew out of the agreements and resolutions of world conferences organized by the United Nations. See also: <http://www.worldbank.org/mdgs/> and <http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/millennium-development-indicators>
- The World Bank's eAtlas of the Millennium Development Goals produced in collaboration with Office of the Publisher, Development Data Group and Harper Collins lets one visualize and map the indicators that measure progress toward the Goals, with clear explanations of each Goal and its related Targets as the context. When one selects an indicator, the eAtlas creates a world map keyed to that indicator, with country rankings and data in table or graph formats. One can pan or zoom to view different countries or regions, view the dynamic change in that map with a time series, compare two maps and sets of data, and do much more. To see the atlas, go to <http://www.app.collinsindicate.com/mdg/en>
- The Millennium Development Goals and the Road to 2010 booklet was produced to examine the progress made so far on MDG targets. The report can be accessed from <http://www.worldbank.org/mdgs/> website.
- The World Bank contributes to the development of core and supplementary environmental indicators for monitoring progress toward the Millennium Development Goals through the Environment subgroup of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on the MDGs.

3.3.6 Sustainable development Sustainable Development

- The World Bank contributes to the Joint UNECE/OECD/Eurostat Working Group on Statistics for Sustainable Development (WGSSD). This group aims to develop a guidance document on developing asset-based approaches to measuring sustainable development.
- The World Bank contributes to the update of the Indicators of the UN Commission for Sustainable Development Indicators taskforce. Indicators are now classified as core and non-core and provide methodology sheets and background information to support indicator efforts in countries.

3.4 Yearbooks and similar compendia (World Bank) Compendia

• The Bank releases two annual publications both in hard copy and on CD-ROM, World Development Indicators and Global Development Finance. The Atlas of Global Development is distributed in hard copy and electronic formats. Time-series data from these publications are available from the Bank's Open Data site at <http://data.worldbank.org/>.

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

4.1 Metadata (World Bank) DDI

Together with the International Household Survey Network (IHSN), the World Bank is advocating and supporting the use of the Data Documentation Initiative (DDI) metadata specification for the documentation and dissemination of microdata. With input and support of the Bank's Data Group, version 2.5 of the DDI Codebook specification was released by the DDI Alliance in 2011. In 2012, the data Group will support the development/upgrade of software applications compliant with this new version of the metadata standard.

4.3 Data sources (World Bank)

4.3.3 Household surveys (World Bank)

International Household Survey Network (IHSN)

The World Bank participates in the governing body of the International Household Survey Network (IHSN), established in September 2004 (with various UN agencies, regional development banks, PARIS21, and other bilateral and multilateral partners), and coordinates the IHSN secretariat. (<http://www.surveynetwork.org/>) IHSN advocates better survey planning, promotes harmonization and development of data collection instruments, provides survey data dissemination tools and guidelines, and maintains a central survey and census catalogue. The IHSN is developing a new version of its survey catalog. In 2012, a new survey catalog, compliant with the DDI metadata standard, will be launched. The catalog will cover all low and middle-income countries. The World Bank has developed a Survey Data Dissemination Toolkit, in cooperation with IHSN, aiming to provide developing countries with software and guidelines for proper preservation, documentation and dissemination of survey micro data. The Toolkit is based on the Data Documentation Initiative (DDI) standard. The Toolkit is by a large number of agencies in over 60 countries. The World Bank, in partnership with PARIS21, is providing training and technical support to statistical agencies and other national and regional data producers and curators on the use of the DDI standard. In 2012, this technical support program is expected to cover an increasing number of countries in Easter Europe and Central Asia.

The World Bank and IHSN have initiated the development of microdata anonymization tools and dissemination guidelines, building on the work by the UN-ECE Task Force on Confidentiality and Microdata. This work will continue in 2012, in collaboration or coordination with European-based agencies (EUROSTAT, OECD, University of Vienna, and others).

The World Bank and IHSN will continue the development of methodological guidelines related to the implementation of household surveys and the use of survey data. These guidelines will include i) the documentation of microdata management and dissemination good practices; ii) a global assessment of the relevance of household food consumption survey data, with recommendations for improving data collection methods (with FAO), and iii) guidelines for the implementation of the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) in the specific context of household survey implementation.

Living Standards Measurement Survey

- Living Standards Measurement Survey Database contains all information on LSMS surveys that have been carried out. Documentation, questionnaires, manuals and other basic information can be downloaded from the site. The actual data can either be downloaded directly from the site (where countries have given permission) or may be requested from the database manager. Each survey data set contains constructed welfare measures that can be used for poverty analysis. To increase the ease of use and accessibility of the LSMS data sets two new tools are being constructed. The first is a searchable metadata file that allows researchers and analysts to identify those surveys that meet their research needs. A further effort to expand the use of the LSMS data sets is an interactive multi-survey data base that allows for on-the-fly tables and other analyses of the data for those who do not have the skills or time to analyze full household surveys.
- The World Bank continues to provide assistance in planning, designing, implementing and analyzing the Living Standard Measurement Study (LSMS) surveys. The LSMS surveys represent one piece of larger, integrated efforts to improve the overall statistical system of each country by providing quality household level data.
- The WB ISTAT and the PRSP unit have supported efforts to determine the feasibility of using the HBS to measure welfare in future years.
- Regional work is being carried out in analyzing welfare data and how LSMS and HBS surveys are similar and dissimilar and the implications this has for welfare analysis over time.
- The LSMS group has developed a program of research investigating methodological issues related to the measurement of key concepts, how to improve data quality and ways in which LSMS survey data can be linked to other data bases. In the region, steps have been taken in designing experiments on the measurement of consumption.
- Assistance in planning, designing, implementing and analyzing LSMS surveys is provided by staff in DECRG-Poverty Group. Assistance includes technical advice on all stages of survey work, from deciding on the need for an LSMS survey, how best to design and implement such a survey, to how the resulting data can be analyzed. The goal is to foster increased use of household data as a basis for policy decision-making. The LSMS is working to develop new methods to monitor progress in raising levels of living, to identify the consequences for households of past and proposed government policies, and to improve communications between survey statisticians, analysts, and policy makers. A variety of printed and electronic materials are also available to survey planners and analysts. Several of these are:
 - i) the book on Designing Household Survey Questionnaires for Developing Countries: Lessons from Fifteen years of the LSMS Surveys, that link the policy questions to be answered to the actual data that must be collected.
 - ii) a Manual for Planning and Implementing LSMS Surveys, that covers all phases of an LSMS survey, from budgeting, to sampling, field work and

data management and analysis;

iii) examples of questionnaires, manuals and other field work material from all countries where LSMS surveys have been done;

iv) case studies on how to increase the analytic capacity in country;

v) databases from more than 88 LSMS surveys.

- Formal training courses on survey design and implementation along with hands-on-training are provided, both within and outside the Bank. New techniques in small area estimation for poverty mapping are being developed that link census and household survey data. Training in these techniques as well as technical assistance in their implementation is also provided by DECRG-PO.

- The Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS) web site provides access to documentation and data from LSMS surveys done in the region, including Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyz Republic, Romania, Russia, Serbia, and Tajikistan. For more information, visit the [LSMS site](#).

4.5 Dissemination, data warehousing (World Bank)

Dissemination

The Development Data Group of the World Bank uses the following systems for data retrieval and dissemination:

- As part of the World Bank's new open data initiative (ODI), the Bank launched a new website <http://data.worldbank.org> in April 2010 to provide free, open and easy access to over 5,000 indicators in four languages: English, Spanish, French and Arabic. Visitors to the site can easily find, download, manipulate, use, and re-use the data compiled by the World Bank, without restrictions. They can also take advantage of graph and mapping tools. Over the past year more World Bank datasets, such as for example, Climate Change, Projects and Operations, Finance and Microdata have been added to the data repositories that have joined the ODI. The site allows individuals, groups, and organizations to create applications, programs, visualizations, and other tools that will help monitor and measure progress of various development initiatives and projects. Additionally, the data can be used to create new and innovative solutions for international development, helping with the World Bank's mission to reduce poverty across the globe. One of the components of the new Open Data is the data retrieval system called the DataBank providing access to about 30 databases. The Data Bank is the external version of what we have as an internal Bank system, DDP (see below for information on DDP). Some of the links available from the DataBank on various topical databases include:

- Gender at <http://databank.worldbank.org/ddp/home.do?Step=12&id=4&CNO=283>;
- Education at <http://databank.worldbank.org/ddp/home.do?Step=2&id=4&CNO=1159>;
- Health-Nutrition-Population HNPStats at <http://databank.worldbank.org/ddp/home.do?Step=12&id=4&CNO=311>;
- Etc.

- Development Data Platform (DDP), a web-based statistical data collection and dissemination system, providing access to many databases under one umbrella.

- A web-based system, Data Platform (DP), is part of the DDP suite of products developed to help clients and partners to manage and disseminate their data based on their preferences and needs. It provides a framework for the use and management of quantitative data and their metadata. The system is especially useful for any organization with a need to publish statistical data on the web.

- The Gateway initiative is envisioned as a portal website on development issues, from which users will be able to access information, resources and tools, and into which they will be able to contribute their own knowledge and experience <http://www.developmentgateway.org/>.

- As part of the World Bank's new Access to Information Policy and building on the success of the Open Data initiative the Mapping for Results Platform was launched on October 7th, 2010 by the World Bank Institute and AidData in partnership with various World Bank departments (AFTSD, LCSDE, DECDG, OPCS) to geo-reference and visualize the geographic location of World Bank financed projects and international aid programs at the sub-national level. See <http://maps.worldbank.org/>.

- The Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS) web site provides access to documentation and data from LSMS surveys done in all regions, including ECE Region. <http://www.worldbank.org/lms/lms/home.html>.

- The World Bank Microdata Library (<http://microdata.worldbank.org>) provides access to survey and census data and metadata. The number of surveys and censuses listed in this catalog is expected to grow significantly in 2012.

- Data Visualizer, is new visualization tool creating animated charts using the most widely used and official development data. New tools and emerging techniques are providing new opportunities for visualizing data and making it more interesting to users. Adding animation to this only increases its impact. To use this new tool, see <http://devdata.worldbank.org/DataVisualizer/>.

- The new version of the World Bank's DataFinder 2.5 is now available for the iPhone, iPod, and iPad at Apple's App Store. This application is part of the World Bank's Open Data Initiative to make development data more accessible and easier to use. This is an offline application and *does not* require a 3G or WiFi connection to the World Bank's Open Data website. Users can be presented with a pre-selected set of indicators for a country/country grouping or for a thematic topic (e.g. environment, gender, trade etc.). Data can be charted or viewed on an animated map. Users can also select a development indicator from a list of over 200 and view it for all countries. Users can also compare indicators for two countries. All tables, charts, maps can be shared via email or via social media software such Facebook and Twitter.

- The DataFinder 3.0 mobile app will be released in January 2012 on three platforms - iPhone/iPad, Android and Blackberry. Besides having all the features of the DataFinder 2.5 described above, the DataFinder 3.0 has an Advanced Query Feature that allows users to create their own data tables and charts from 50 years of World Bank data on more than 1,100 global social and economic indicators for over 200 countries/economies and country groups - all of which can be used in presentations, projects, and shared via email. It also contains improved visualizations including a map with zoom-in features. Since the launch of the first DataFinder application, major improvements have been made, including the ability to switch between tables, lines and bar charts; view data in tabular forms; display charts with more than one country and more than one indicator; navigate forward/backward between countries and indicators, etc. will be downloadable in 2012 from Apple, Google and the Blackberry stores.

- EdStats has just launched the [World Bank EdStats DataFinder](#), the new iPhone/iPad application. This free app is a comprehensive mobile data

and analysis source for key topics in education with over 2,000 education indicators for more than 200 countries and regional/income groups. The app's **Data** tab allows one to conduct a fast, customized data query, chart/ visualize the resulting data, and share the data. The **Book** tab presents a data profile of a selected country, region or income group. The **EdStats DataFinder** holds data on Pre-Primary, Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary education from the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS); Learning Outcomes from international learning assessments including PISA, TIMSS, PIRLS, LLECE, PASEC, and SACMEQ; Education Equity from DHS and MICS household surveys; Education Expenditures and Teachers from the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS); etc.

- Bulletin Board on Statistical Capacity (BBS-C) has been developed. It aims to improve measuring and monitoring of statistical capacity of IDA countries in close collaboration with countries and users. The database contains information on various aspects of national statistical systems and includes a country-level statistical capacity indicator based on a set of criteria consistent with international recommendations. To access Country Profiles, click here. To see the site, go to <http://www.worldbank.org/data/bbscGeneral>.
- Together with the IMF, the World Bank will continue to work on the General Data Dissemination System (GDDS) which provides guidelines to the countries in the dissemination of economic, financial and socio-demographic data to the public and establishes a broad framework for countries seeking improvements in their statistical systems. The World Bank has developed guidelines for the preparation of metadata covering the following areas: population, education, health, poverty assessment and monitoring. The World Bank, as part of phase one of this project, in collaboration with the IMF, has been participating in regional seminars and in preparation of the GDDS metadata for participating countries, as well as providing technical support from headquarters or in the field to staff of member countries participating in the GDDS.
- For WITS and Trade visualizers, see section 2.6.

5. Strategic and managerial issues of official statistics (World Bank)

5.3 Quality frameworks and measurement of performance of statistical systems and offices (World Bank)

Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF)

- The World Bank has been working with the IMF on the Socio-demographic and Poverty modules of the Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF). The framework provides countries with a flexible structure for the qualitative assessment of various aspects of the statistical environment and infrastructure in which the data are collected, processed, and disseminated. It also identifies areas requiring technical assistance. The income poverty and education modules have been completed. Modules for health and population are under development.

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

Statistical Information Collection and Processing

- The World Bank gathers macroeconomic data and projections at least once a year from its country teams in a process known as the Unified Survey. These data and projections are used for planning and evaluating Bank operations. They underlie work on creditworthiness and risk assessment and they are an important part of the Bank's external publications such as the World Development Indicators, the country and regional At-a-Glance tables, and Global Development Finance. These data are collected in a standardized way using the World Bank's country database system known as the Live Database (LDB). The LDB is an Excel based system which standardizes the management of macroeconomic information by organizing information into separate sheets by topic and utilizing indicator codes, common layouts, and a variety of formatting, calculation, and reporting tools.
- The Development Data Platform (DDP), a web-based statistical data collection and dissemination system has integrated and streamlined time-series data management operations at the Bank, and has established a comprehensive platform to support the statistical data collection and dissemination functions of the Bank. Also, the software can be provided to countries to further the goal of statistical capacity building in these countries. The software developed in this project may be installed in these countries.
- The Data Collection System (DCS), is an internal repository for time series data and metadata collection, validation, processing including aggregation to various regional and income based groupings. It is used internally for a wide variety of socio-economic, financial and other topical indicators. The DCS provides data to the DDP (described above). As a platform, DCS is also provided to other organizations which have similar needs for statistical time series data collection and processing.
- The system has also incorporated micro data from household surveys allowing cross-country comparisons on key indicators by welfare status.
- A web-based system, Data Platform (DP), is part of the DDP suite of products developed to help clients and partners to manage and disseminate their data based on their preferences and needs. It provides a framework for the use and management of quantitative data and their metadata. The system is especially useful for any organization with a need to publish statistical data on the web.

SDMX

- The BIS, ECB, EUROSTAT, IMF, OECD, UN, and the World Bank have set up a partnership to focus on establishing web-based standards for more efficient exchange and sharing of statistical information and metadata, which is called SDMX. As part of this effort the Bank is currently chairing the Sponsor group and actively participating in the SDMX Secretariat activities. The Bank is also a part of the newly formed SDMX Technical working group. In the SDMX Global Conference hosted jointly by the Bank and IMF much headway was made, and as a follow up to the conference, a new SDMX Action plan was drafted creating a roadmap for SDMX until 2015. The Action Plan is available on the web and accessible at the following url (http://sdmx.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/SDMX-Action-Plan-2011_2015.pdf). The Bank has now capability to accept data in SDMX format and also provides download of the popular WDI database in SDMX-ML format. The Bank also has a SDMX Version 2.1 compatible REST based API for users to query the WDI data.

5.7 Technical cooperation and capacity building programmes (World Bank)

Statistical Capacity Building

Ongoing work:

- The World Bank promotes statistical capacity building (SCB) mainly through financial instruments, advisory services, knowledge products, and partnerships. Our activities are centred around the implementation of the Marrakech Action Plans for Statistics (MAPS). Main financial instruments

are loans and grants. Lending projects are mostly long term and comprehensive in coverage. The projects typically aim at improved economic and social information for policy making and poverty reduction by strengthening planning, statistical legislations, infrastructure, human resources, data collection, processing, analyzing, archiving, and dissemination. A multi-country lending program, Statistical Capacity Building Program (STATCAP), became operational in 2004 to make investments in statistical development easier and more effective. It is designed to be simple to initiate, plan and operate.

- A \$32 million loan under STATCAP for a statistical capacity building program in Ukraine was approved by the Bank's Executive Board in 2004 and is currently being implemented. The loan includes finance for organizational and management reform, development of statistical infrastructure, modernization of computing infrastructure, technical assistance in various areas, and use of economic data in analysis and forecasting. Technical assistance and consulting related components of the project were completed and the ICT component will be completed in 2012. An interim Implementation Completion Report was prepared by the Bank.
- In the Russian Federation as a part of the STATCAP facility a new \$50 million Project for Development of the State Statistical System (STASYS 2) became effective in April 2008. The project is now under implementation as a follow up to the STASYS project which was completed in December 2006. For the STASYS 2 Project, the World Bank finances 20% of the above amount to i) enforce further modernization of statistics methodology in compliance with the international standards; ii) strengthen development of modern design and technology for statistical data collection, processing, and dissemination; iii) ensure enhancement of social statistics, and iv) support human resource development in the statistical system.
- A STATCAP project for Tajikistan was approved in 2006, and completed in June 2011. The project was supported by co-financing from DFID and SIDA, as well as in-kind contributions from the Turkish International Cooperation Agency (TICA). The completion evaluation report conducted by an independent consultant revealed that project achieved all proposed objectives made a significant contribution to the improvement of the Tajik statistical system. These findings were confirmed by the Implementation Completion Report (ICR) prepared by the World Bank.
- A \$20 million loan under the STATCAP umbrella for Kazakhstan was approved by the World Bank in March 2011. The main objective of the project is to improve efficiency and effectiveness of the national statistical system to provide relevant, timely and reliable data in line with internationally accepted methodology and best practices. The project will upgrade the conceptual, methodological and analytical skills of the Kazakh Agency on Statistics of Republic of Kazakhstan (ASRK) and other data producer and user agencies of the country. The loan agreement was signed in August 2011 and ratified by the Kazakh Parliament in December 2011. The project will become effective before the end of the year and implementation will start in January 2012.
- The World Bank manages a multi-donor Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (TFSCB which aims to strengthen the capacity of statistical systems in developing countries. It supports: i) NSDS projects assisting the preparation of National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS); and ii) Statistical capacity improvement projects aiming at strengthening the capacity in key priority areas. TFSCB also funds participation of developing country representatives in meetings, seminars and workshops. TFSCB has financed below projects in the region that are under implementation.
 - UNECE: Capacity Building Program on New Challenges in Economic Statistics in Central Asia and Eastern European Countries 2009-2011 \$355,000
 - Turkmenistan: Statistical Capacity Building for Growth and Poverty Reduction \$387,500
 - Piloting and Preparatory Work for 2011 Armenia Population Census \$100,000
 - Russia: Strengthening Subnational Capacity for Analysis of Living Conditions \$259,000
 - Georgia: National Statistics System Development Strategy \$280,000
 - Georgia: Preparatory Work for 2013 Georgia National Population Census \$250,000
 - CIS Statistical Committee Training Program \$375,000
 - Tajikistan: Preparation of the Statistical Master Plan-2 \$80,000
 - Kyrgyz Republic: Preparation of a New Statistical Master Plan \$74,000
 - Russian Federation/CIS: The Need to Develop an Integrated System of Household Surveys to Collect Data on International Migration in the CIS States \$320,000
- The World Bank Development Grant Facility provided grants to UNECE in the total amount of 950,000 USD to strengthen national capacity to improve gender statistics in Southern and Eastern Europe. These grants fall under the Marrakesh Action Plan for Statistics umbrella, and were used to finance the following objectives: i) improve gender sensitivity of National Statistical Systems in order to increase availability, raise quality and improve access to data for developing, monitoring, and evaluating gender policies; and ii) increase capacity of users to utilize statistics for policy making and how to judge the quality and availability of data at the national and regional level.
- The World Bank maintains a web site on Statistical Capacity Building which provides information on the financial instruments, including STATCAP and TFSCB, advisory services, databases, and reference materials available in support of statistical capacity building. See <http://www.worldbank.org/data/statcap>.
- The World Bank has developed in the last three years the Virtual Statistical System which is an online resource for statisticians and users of statistics with information about how to manage statistical systems and how to make official statistics. The website includes a knowledge base with over 2000 pages of text, a VSS Wiki and VSS discussion groups which allow knowledge exchange all over the world, and the VSS elearning website called Modules for Strengthening Statistics. The site can be found at (www.virtualstatisticalsystem.org and www.statsys.org). The design of the site was an effort of working in partnership with several other international organizations and developed and developing countries.
- The Country Statistical Information Database provides information on national statistical systems useful for assessing statistical capacity and monitoring progress in statistical capacity building in developing countries. The database contains information encompassing various aspects of national statistical systems and operations, such as statistical law, national statistical strategy, statistical practice, censuses and surveys, national statistical agencies and publications, , and World Bank statistical projects. It also includes a country-level composite statistical capacity indicator based on evaluation of countries against a set of criteria in the areas of statistical practice, data collection and indicator availability, consistent with international recommendations. In addition, the database allows for cross-country comparisons of selected indicators. See <http://www.worldbank.org/data/countrydata/csid.html>.
- The World Bank provides funding to PARIS21 from its development Grant Facility for the implementation of the Accelerated Data Program

(ADP), jointly implemented with the World Bank Data Group. The ADP provides support to countries in the areas of microdata documentation, dissemination and preservation. The Russian Federal Service of State Statistics (Rosstat) was introduced to the software and practices promoted by the ADP.

- A web-based tool called the "Bulletin Board on Statistical Capacity (BBSC)" has been launched on the World Bank website. The tool will help strengthen the capacity of countries, especially IDA countries, to compile and use statistics with an overall aim of supporting the management of development results. Specifically, the BBSC: i) presents key information on national statistical systems collected from national and international sources, including planning, funding, human resources, census and surveys; ii) assesses countries' statistical capacity in key areas including institutional framework, statistical methodology, source data, data periodicity and timeliness through the use of a composite indicator, checklists, maps and charts; and iii) allows users to provide feedback and updates easily and quickly with interactive features. The BBSC is available online at: <http://www.worldbank.org/data/bbsc>.
