United Nations

Economic and Social Council

Economic Commission for Europe

Conference of European Statisticians

Sixtieth plenary session
Paris, 6-8 June 2012
Item 9(e) of the provisional agenda
Organization of in-depth reviews

Database of International Statistical Activities in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region

Note by the secretariat

Summary

The Database of International Statistical Activities incorporates the statistical work programmes of more than 30 international agencies conducting statistical work in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region. The Database of International Statistical Activities is organised according to a classification of statistical areas maintained by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians. The present note provides the latest update of the status with the Database of International Statistical Activities and its classification.

I.   Introduction

1.   The Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA) is a compendium of statistical work carried out by international organizations in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) region. The UNECE Statistical Division has been compiling the information at the request of the Conference since 1991. As of 2002, it is available on the web[1]. It is updated annually to provide an overview of planned statistical work over the coming year.

2.   The database was set up as a tool to help coordinate the international statistical work in UNECE region. It is used, for example, by the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) Bureau as a basis for the in-depth reviews of selected statistical areas. It provides an overview of the activities of different international organizations in specific areas which can help to identify duplication of work and gaps where new methodological work may be needed.

3.   The information can be useful for the staff of national statistical offices, statisticians, researchers, students, etc. for finding out about the current statistical work of international organizations.

II.   Classification of international statistical activities

4.   The Database is structured according to the classification of statistical activities, the so-called DISA classification. The current version of the classification adopted in October 2009 is provided in Annex 1.

5.   The Conference of European Statisticians, through its Bureau, is the owner of the classification, and is responsible for authorizing revisions as necessary. The UNECE secretariat, in collaboration with the Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX) secretariat, is responsible for maintaining the explanatory notes to the classification, and any other material needed to aid interpretation and implementation[2].

6.   The DISA classification has been adopted for various other purposes. For example, it is used for reporting on technical assistance activities by the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century - PARIS 21 Consortium. The first three domains of this classification have been adopted as part of the SDMX standard. The classification is also being used for the Global Inventory of Statistical Standards currently developed under the auspices of the Coordinating Committee of Statistical Activities.

III. Current status

7.   The 2012 issue of the Database is available online as of April 2012.

8.   Over 30 international organizations (including city groups) were contacted to obtain contributions. The UNECE has received inputs from twenty-nine of them (status of 28 March 2012). The information received from the contributing organizations has been classified, checked for consistency and uploaded in DISA.

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[1] www.unece.org/disa
[2] www1.unece.org/stat/platform/display/disaarchive/Classification+of+Statistical+Activities

Annex 1

Classification of statistical activities (Rev.1, October 2009)

Domain 1: Demographic and social statistics

1.1   Population and migration

1.2   Labour

1.3   Education

1.4   Health

1.5   Income and consumption

1.6   Social protection

1.7   Human settlements and housing

1.8   Justice and crime

1.9   Culture

1.10   Political and other community activities

1.11   Time use

Domain 2: Economic statistics

2.1   Macroeconomic statistics

2.2   Economic accounts

2.3   Business statistics

2.4   Sectoral statistics

2.4.1   Agriculture, forestry, fisheries

2.4.2   Energy

2.4.3   Mining, manufacturing, construction

2.4.4   Transport

2.4.5   Tourism

2.4.6   Banking, insurance, financial statistics

2.5   Government finance, fiscal and public sector statistics

2.6   International trade and balance of payments

2.7   Prices

2.8   Labour cost

2.9   Science, technology and innovation

Domain 3: Environment and multi-domain statistics

3.1   Environment

3.2   Regional and small area statistics

3.3   Multi-domain statistics and indicators

3.3.1   Living conditions, poverty and cross-cutting social issues

3.3.2   Gender and special population groups

3.3.3 Information society

3.3.4   Globalisation

3.3.5   Indicators related to the Millennium Development Goals

3.3.6   Sustainable development

3.3.7   Entrepreneurship

3.4   Yearbooks and similar compendia

Domain 4: Methodology of data collection, processing, dissemination and analysis

4.1   Metadata

4.2   Classifications

4.3   Data sources

4.3.1   Population and housing censuses; registers of population, dwellings and buildings

4.3.2   Business and agricultural censuses and registers

4.3.3   Household surveys

4.3.4   Business and agricultural surveys

4.3.5   Other administrative sources

4.4   Data editing and data linkage

4.5   Dissemination, data warehousing

4.6   Statistical confidentiality and disclosure protection

4.7   Data analysis

Domain 5: Strategic and managerial issues of official statistics

5.1   Institutional frameworks and principles; role and organization of official statistics

5.2   Statistical programmes; coordination within statistical systems

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

5.4   Management and development of human resources

5.5   Management and development of technological resources (including standards for electronic data exchange and data sharing)

5.6   Coordination of international statistical work

5.7   Technical cooperation and capacity building

Annex 2

List of organizations and groups included in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Database of International Statistical Activities 2012 issue

CIS-STAT- Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States

ECB - European Central Bank

EFTA - European Free Trade Association

Eurostat- Statistical Office of the European Union

FAO - Food and Agriculture Organisation

IEA - International Energy Agency

ILO - International Labour Organisation

IMF - International Monetary Fund

ITF on International Trade in Services

ITU - International Telecommunication Union

OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Paris 21 - Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century

UNCTAD - UN Conference on Trade and Development

UNECE – UN Economic Commission for Europe

UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation

UNICEF- CEE/CIS Region

UNIDO- United Nations Industrial Development Organisation

United Nations Statistics Division

WHO (Europe) - World Health Organisation Regional Office for Europe

WHO (Headquarters) - World Health Organization Headquarters

World Bank

World Tourism Organisation

World Trade Organisation

Delhi Group on Informal Sector Statistics

HEUNI - The European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control

IWG-Price Statistics - Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics

Ottawa Group on Price Indices

Voorburg Group on Services Statistics

Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers