



**United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
Statistical Division**

Guidelines for Harmonising Time Use Surveys

Conference of European Statisticians
61st plenary session
Geneva, 10-12 June 2013

Timeline

- ❖ In-depth review Nov 2010 → task force
- ❖ Draft discussed by Bureau in February 2013
- ❖ Revised draft → consultation March-May 2013
- ❖ Results of consultation June 2013
- ❖ *Proposed endorsement: Oct 2013*

Focus Areas of the Guidelines

- ❖ Policy relevance
- ❖ Key statistical outputs
- ❖ Periodicity
- ❖ Light and full-scale diaries
- ❖ Activity classification

Comments

- ❖ 27 countries
- ❖ 4 international organizations
- ❖ 23 explicit statements of support.
- ❖ No opposition

General comments

- ❖ Overall consistency-check and editing
- ❖ Alignment of concepts with the International Conference of Labour Statisticians
- ❖ Clarity in explaining the overall purpose of the guidelines and of some parts
- ❖ Requests for additional recommendations and detail
- ❖ Annex with basic information on recently held time use surveys

Comments on the structure

- ❖ Appreciated, policy relevance in particular
- ❖ Additional policy aspects suggested
- ❖ Varying comments on length (too short/ too long)
- ❖ Explain time diary method at the beginning

Comments on further work

- ❖ Additional proposals
 - Work space for sharing experiences
 - International guidelines on methods for valuing unpaid household service work
- ❖ Support to the proposals in the Guidelines
 - Use of light dairies
 - New data collection methods and online surveys
 - Subjective well-being
 - Activity classification

Task force's response

- ❖ Audio conference on 22 May
- ❖ Agreement on specific actions on implementing many proposals
- ❖ Some proposals beyond the scope
- ❖ More information required on a few selected comments
- ❖ Revised version for Oct 2013 meeting of the Bureau

The Conference is invited to ...

- ❖ Discuss the Guidelines
 - Annex with information on conducted time use surveys?
- ❖ Ask Bureau to review proposals for further work
 - Light dairies
 - New data collection methods and online surveys
 - Subjective well-being in time use surveys
 - Establishment of a shared working space
 - Valuing unpaid household service work