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**STATISTICAL PROGRAMME  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**2009**

**Note prepared by the UNECE secretariat**

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## Introduction

1. The Conference of European Statisticians decided at its 2003 plenary session that an Annual Statistical Programme of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) be regularly compiled.
2. The main purpose of the Statistical Programme is to (i) give an overview of all statistical activities carried out by the various Divisions and Units of the UNECE; (ii) help prioritise the activities undertaken by the UNECE Statistical Division; (iii) allow for more transparency and focus on the work; and (iv) give an explicit mandate for the various activities of the Statistical Division. Furthermore, the compilation of the Statistical Programme facilitates the work of the UNECE Statistical Division in fulfilling its mandate of coordinating the statistical activities of the UNECE, and of the Conference of European Statisticians and its Bureau in providing guidance to other Sectoral Committees on statistically related activities. It also serves as the basis for reporting the work undertaken by the CES to the Executive Committee of the ECE.
3. The Statistical Programme is prepared by the UNECE Statistical Division. It is compiled for a calendar year.
4. The presentation of the statistical activities conforms to the following structure:
  - I. Statistical activities undertaken by the UNECE Statistical Division: 39 statistical activities by the Statistical Division are identified and grouped into nine categories:
    - Coordination of international statistical work in the UNECE region;
    - Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic statistics;
    - Collection, processing and dissemination of social and demographic statistics;
    - Processing and dissemination infrastructure for statistics;
    - Methodological work in economic statistics;
    - Methodological work in social and demographic statistics;
    - Methodological work in environment and sustainable development statistics;
    - Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics; and
    - Technical assistance to UNECE member countries.
  - II. Statistical activities undertaken by other UNECE Divisions, including 7 activities.
5. The statistical activities are presented in the following way:
  - Summary description;
  - Purpose;
  - Output expected by the end of 2009
  - Meetings;
  - UNECE resources involved;
  - Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities.

The UNECE resources involved are included only for the activities of the Statistical Division, for internal purposes and to inform the Bureau of the CES. Three categories for defining the resources in 2009 are used: limited (less than 6 person-months); moderate (between 6 person-months and 2 person-years); or substantial (two person-years or more).

A detailed table presenting the UNECE resources involved for each activity of the Statistical Division is given in Annex at the end of the Statistical Programme. This table also includes the name of the staff member in charge of each activity.

6. For each statistical activity, the codes of the relevant Statistical Area(s) in the Database of International Statistical Activities are indicated for reference. The Statistical Programme is used as an input to the Database of International Statistical Activities, and the information for both products is stored in the same database.

7. The 2009 Statistical Programme includes 39 activities to be undertaken by the Statistical Division. There were 36 activities in the Statistical Programme for 2008<sup>1</sup>. The increase in the number of activities since last year has been made possible by efficiency gains and redistribution of work within Sections in the Division.

8. The following activities are new or substantially changed compared to the previous year's programme:

- Activity 4.5 UNData – contribution by the UNECE (new activity)
- Activity 6.10 Statistics on income, living conditions and poverty (new activity)
- Activity 7.2 Environmental indicators (new cross-sectoral activity to be carried out jointly with the Environment, Housing and Land Management Division)
- Activity 7.3 Statistics related to climate change (new activity)
- Activity 8.1 Management of statistical information systems (renamed, includes a new task)

9. The activity 6.6 is renamed as 'Measurement of quality of employment' (formerly 'Labour statistics').

10. Furthermore, to harmonise the UN biennial and UNECE annual programmes, the expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures as defined in the UN Programme budget Plan for the 2008-2009 biennium are listed under each cluster of activities. These were defined in October 2005 when the Programme plan for 2008-2009 was discussed by the Bureau.

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<sup>1</sup> There were 37 activities in 2007, 34 in 2006, 39 in 2005, and 40 in 2004.

## **Part I. Activities undertaken by the UNECE Statistical Division**

### **Objective of the UNECE Statistical Division, as defined in the UN programme plan for the biennium 2008-2009:**

To improve the reliability of national official statistics and ensure their comparability at the international level, and to play the central coordination role for the international statistical activities undertaken in the region

### **1. Coordination of international statistical work in the UNECE region**

#### **Expected Accomplishment:**

Streamlined activity patterns of statistical work between international organizations through elimination of overlaps and gaps.

#### **Indicators of achievement:**

(i) The percentage of joint activities in the UNECE Statistical Programme undertaken in cooperation with the OECD, the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat), The Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States, and other international organizations.

*Performance measures:*

- 2004-2005: 75 per cent (as of December 2005)
- 2006-2007: 85 per cent (as of December 2007)
- Target 2008-2009: 70 per cent (target set in October 2006)

(ii) The number of international organizations regularly reporting their activities in the Database on International Statistical Activities (DISA, formerly the "Integrated Presentation").

*Performance measures:*

- 2004-2005: 26 organizations (as of December 2005)
- 2006-2007: 27 organizations (as of December 2007)
- Target 2008-2009: 26 organizations (target set in October 2006)

## **1. Coordination of international statistical work in the UNECE region**

### **Activity 1.1: Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

#### **Summary description**

The Database of International Statistical Activities (formerly called Integrated Presentation) brings together the statistical programmes of work of about 30 international agencies active in the UNECE region.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Maintain an up-to-date Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA) on the Internet allowing users to browse and search for information that is compiled in a single database.
- ◆ DISA is a tool helping the CES and its Bureau to coordinate the statistical work in the UNECE region and to avoid duplication of work.

#### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ Updated DISA for 2009. The Database is updated every year based on the UNECE Statistical Programme and contributions from about 30 International Organizations. For the UNECE, Eurostat, OECD and ILO, the updating of the DISA is made on the basis of their statistical programmes. Major changes can be corrected mid-year with regard to meetings and following the discussion at the CES plenary session.
  - Collecting information for the 2009 issue of the database.
  - Preparing the 2009 issue of the database.
  - Promoting the database and monitoring the use of the database
- ◆ Starting the preparations for the 2010 issue of DISA.

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Moderate

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

5.6 Coordination of international statistical work

## **1. Coordination of international statistical work in the UNECE region**

### **Activity 1.2: Secretariat support for the work of the CES and its Bureau**

#### **Summary description**

Secretariat support for the work of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES), which is the Sectoral Committee of the UNECE Statistical Division, and its Bureau. The CES coordinates the statistical activities of the three main international organizations working in the UNECE region, Eurostat, OECD and UNECE, as well as the statistical activities of other organizations, such as CIS-STAT, UNSD, IMF, ILO, WHO and the World Bank. The work of the Conference is steered by its Bureau.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Coordinate the international statistical work carried out by the various international agencies active in the UNECE region with the goal of efficient use of resources, avoiding duplication of work and reducing the burden on member countries.
- ◆ Provide a forum where the three major players in official statistics, UNECE, Eurostat and OECD, get together to coordinate the statistical work in the region. Furthermore, other international players, like IMF, World Bank, CIS Statistical Committee, ILO, WHO, etc., and the Heads of national statistical agencies are also actively involved.
- ◆ Provide a forum for addressing the issues of current interest to Heads of national and international statistical agencies where all member countries and organizations have the opportunity to participate on an equal footing, discuss the region's common statistical problems, exchange experience, and formulate common solutions and recommendations.

#### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ Secretariat support for the work of the Bureau and the Conference on an ongoing basis.
- ◆ Organization, preparation and servicing of the annual plenary session of the CES (June 2009), which includes three modules: a session on formal business and two seminar sessions.
- ◆ Organization, preparation and servicing the Bureau meetings: in February and October 2009.
- ◆ Coordination of the Teams of Specialists that work under the auspices of the CES in various statistical areas and report on their activities to the Bureau. Maintaining up-to-date information about these teams on the UNECE website.
- ◆ Secretariat support in the preparation of the CES seminars on *Balancing principles of professional autonomy and accountability with the mandate to produce policy relevant data* and *Strategic issues in business statistics* during the CES 2009 plenary session.
- ◆ Coordination of the implementation of possible follow-up activities of the CES 2009 plenary session.
- ◆ Preparation of the UNECE Statistical Programme 2010.
- ◆ An evaluation of the implementation of the 2009 UNECE Statistical Programme prepared at the end of the year and presented to the CES Bureau in February 2010.
- ◆ Report on the work of the CES to the EXCOM.

### **Meetings**

- ◆ CES annual plenary session (Geneva, 8 -10 (a.m.) June 2009)
- ◆ CES Bureau meetings (2 – 3 February 2009, October 2009)

### **UNECE resources involved**

Substantial

### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

5.6 Coordination of international statistical work

## **1. Coordination of international statistical work in the UNECE region**

### **Activity 1.3: Monitoring the implementation of and contributing to development of principles for official statistics**

#### **Summary description**

Monitor the adherence to, and advocate for, the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in UNECE Member countries, with special focus on CIS and South-East European (SEE) countries. Ensure adherence to the Principles Governing International Statistical Activities within UNECE. Contribute to the development of good practices for these principles within the Coordinating Committee of Statistical Activities (CCSA) and the UN internal Statistics Cluster.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Full implementation of Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in the CIS and South-East European countries.
- ◆ Full implementation of the Principles Governing International Statistical Activities in UNECE.
- ◆ Raising awareness of UN management about the need for specific rules governing statistical activities in order to protect professional independence and impartiality.

#### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ The survey on implementation of fundamental principles of Official Statistics in the CIS and South-East European countries, carried out in coordination with the Eurostat survey on adherence to the EU Code of Practice in EU member countries.
- ◆ Support to the implementation of Fundamental Principles in CIS and SEE countries, such as advice for legislation on official statistics and assessments of statistical systems.
- ◆ Contributing to the CCSA work on quality frameworks for international organizations, imputations for missing country data, and abolishing obstacles for data sharing between international organizations.
- ◆ As co-chair of the UN internal Statistics Cluster of the EC-ESA, contributing to advance the agenda on UN internal issues of coordination and programme planning.

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

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

## **1. Coordination of international statistical work in the UNECE region**

### **Activity 1.4: Coordination of Technical Cooperation in Central Asia**

#### **Summary description**

Following the decision of the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians, the Statistical Division of the UNECE coordinates the technical cooperation in statistics carried out by international and national organizations in Central Asian countries.

#### **Purpose**

Improve technical cooperation in statistics in Central Asian countries. The collection and dissemination by UNECE of timely and comprehensive information on all technical cooperation projects in statistics in Central Asia will allow all donors and beneficiary countries in this region to reduce duplication and overlaps, to develop joint programmes, and to prioritize actions in a way that is consistent with development plans of national statistical systems, as defined by beneficiary countries.

#### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ Preparations for the third round of the bi-annual survey on technical cooperation activities in statistics conducted by international and national organizations in Central Asian countries, carried out by UNECE in cooperation with the Interstate Statistical Committee of the CIS and Eurostat. Publishing the results of the survey on the UNECE website;
- ◆ Making maximal use of the work done in the framework of the CCSA Task Team 2006-2008 on the Partner Reporting System on Statistical Development. Developing the reporting patterns of the survey results in accordance with the standards developed by the CCSA Task Team;
- ◆ Annual SPECA Project Working Group (PWG) Meeting on Statistics to discuss the technical cooperation activities in Central Asia.

#### **Meetings**

4<sup>th</sup> SPECA Project Working Group meeting (June 2009)

#### **ECE resources involved**

Limited

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

5.7 Technical cooperation and capacity building

## **2. Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic statistics**

### **Expected Accomplishment:**

Increased availability of reliable, timely and comparable macroeconomic statistics, particularly about the less advanced countries of the region.

### **Indicators of achievement:**

(i) Percentage of available data of good quality in the macroeconomic overview tables (percentage of filled data cells to the total number of data cells).

*Performance measures:*

2004-2005: not available

2006-2007: 53 per cent (estimate in October 2006)

Target 2008-2009: 60 per cent (target set in October 2006)

(ii) Percentage of users that express, through user surveys, satisfaction with the quality, coverage and timeliness of data contained in the UNECE macroeconomic database.

*Performance measures:*

2004-2005: 70 per cent of satisfied users (as of December 2005)

2006-2007: 81 per cent of satisfied users (as of December 2007)

Target 2008-2009: 70 per cent of satisfied users (target set in October 2006)

## **2. Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic statistics**

### **Activity 2.1: Economic data collection, analysis and advice (Economic database)**

#### **Summary description**

Collect, process and publish economic statistics for the UNECE Member Countries in a publicly available database with online access via English and Russian interfaces.

#### **Purpose**

Make available timely and relevant statistical data on short-term and structural economic statistics in a publicly accessible online database. The database provides comparable data on core indicators for all the countries of the UNECE region and a number of different regional aggregates within the UNECE area.

#### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ Ongoing maintenance (collection, processing and quality control) of a database covering the UNECE member countries, in the following areas:
  - National Accounts main aggregates
  - Industrial production
  - Labour force
  - Population
  - Wages
  - Price indices
  - Purchasing Power Parities
  - Exchange rates
  - Interest rates
  - Balance of payments, external debt
- ◆ Quality improvements to published data, focusing on better coverage, timeliness and comparability, in line with the UNECE data quality framework.
- ◆ Increased number of users, partly due to increased marketing strategy.
- ◆ Improvement of coverage of seasonally adjusted data for selected macro-economic series.
- ◆ Introduction of statistics for Andorra, Liechtenstein, San Marino and Monaco.

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Substantial

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

2.1 Macroeconomic statistics

### **3. Collection, processing and dissemination of social and demographic statistics**

#### **Expected Accomplishment:**

Increased availability of reliable, timely and comparable social and demographic statistics with gender breakdown, particularly about the less advanced countries of the region.

#### **Indicators of achievement:**

(i) Percentage of available data of good quality in the social and demographic overview tables (percentage of filled data cells to the total number of data cells).

*Performance measures:*

2004-2005: not available

2006-2007: 53 per cent (estimate in October 2006)

Target 2008-2009: 60 per cent (target set in October 2006)

(ii) Percentage of users that express, through user surveys, satisfaction with the quality, coverage and timeliness of data contained in the UNECE gender database.

*Performance measures:*

2004-2005: 70 per cent of satisfied users (as of December 2005)

2006-2007: 81 per cent of satisfied users (as of December 2007)

Target 2008-2009: 70 per cent of satisfied users (target set in October 2006)

### **3. Collection, processing and dissemination of social and demographic statistics**

#### **Activity 3.1: Gender statistics database**

##### **Summary description**

Maintain, update and improve the UNECE Gender Statistics Database. This user-friendly database, available in English and Russian, is freely accessible to the public through the UNECE website. It contains sex-disaggregated data relevant to gender policy analysis in the following economic and social areas: population; families & households; work & the economy; education, public life & decision making; health; crime & violence; science & information-communication technologies; and life balance.

##### **Purpose**

- ◆ Provide relevant, timely and harmonized statistics for gender policy analysis for all countries of the UNECE region.
- ◆ Provide a comprehensive framework on gender-relevant issues and statistical indicators that provides guidance to countries in establishing national frameworks.

##### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ Data available for additional topics and extension of existing tables in various topics, such as gender pay gap, based on the recommendations of the Task Force on Gender Database.
- ◆ Marketing strategy developed and promotional material produced to promote the database;
- ◆ Increased number of users;
- ◆ Quality improvements to published data, focusing on better coverage, timeliness and comparability, in line with the UNECE data quality framework;
- ◆ Introduction of data on selected small UNECE countries in areas where data are readily available.

##### **UNECE resources involved**

Substantial

##### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (Integrated Presentation)**

3.3.2 Gender and special population groups

### **3. Collection, processing and dissemination of social and demographic statistics**

#### **Activity 3.2: MDG database**

##### **Summary description**

Maintain a user-friendly regional repository of data to facilitate regional and national monitoring of the progress towards the goals specified in the Millennium Declaration in countries of Central Asia and East and South-East Europe.

##### **Purpose**

Provide relevant, timely and harmonized statistics for monitoring the goals specified in the Millennium Declaration in countries of Central Asia and East and South-East Europe in collaboration with UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA.

##### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ Establishment of a new UNECE-UNICEF-UNDP-UNFPA MDG database based on data available in international and national sources. This regional database would include data that are not currently available in international sources related to: i) additional indicators relevant for the region and ii) additional disaggregations by sex, geographical level and ethnic groups, where possible. The output includes the detailed definition of the database structure and a work plan for future development. This output is subject to additional resources to be made available.
- ◆ Existing MDGInfo updated with the most recent data available in international sources (minimum output in this area in case no additional resources will be made available to create the new MDG Database).

##### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited (Moderate, subject to availability of additional resources)

##### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

3.3.5 Indicators related to the Millennium Development Goals

## **4. Support for processing and dissemination of statistics**

### **Expected accomplishment:**

Improved functionality of the processing and dissemination infrastructure for statistics

### **Indicators of achievement:**

(i) Number of functionalities that were decided by the UNECE Database Coordination Group and successfully implemented.

#### *Performance measures:*

2004-2005: 70 per cent of satisfied users (as of December 2005)

2006-2007: 81 per cent of satisfied users (as of December 2007)

Target 2008-2009: 70 per cent of satisfied users (target set in October 2006)

## **4. Support for processing and dissemination of statistics**

### **Activity 4.1: Infrastructure for processing and disseminating statistical data**

#### **Summary description**

Maintain and develop the necessary database infrastructure to support the processing and dissemination of statistical data. Coordinate UNECE data production regarding the consistency of statistical data and terminology, and the use of data collection, storage and dissemination methods.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Well-documented and managed statistical assets of the UNECE from where data can be easily retrieved.
- ◆ Improve data quality, consistency of time series and consistency across different databases, primarily the UNECE macroeconomic and gender databases.
- ◆ Improve coordination of statistical data collection from the UNECE member countries.

#### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ A database system (using the MS SQL Server) developed by the Statistical Division will be maintained and developed to meet the needs of users. The System is currently used for the Macroeconomic and Gender databases as well as databases maintained by other UNECE divisions (e.g. Transport Division).
- ◆ Support for the use of the PC-Axis system for data dissemination to interested users.
- ◆ Full implementation of the quality framework for the collection, processing and dissemination of data by the UNECE.
- ◆ Improved functionality of the database (e.g. PC-Axis 2008/2009).
- ◆ Improved coordination of statistical terminology and questionnaires sent to the UNECE member countries.
- ◆ An assessment of whether the tools applied by the Statistical Division for data work (SQL database and PC-AXIS dissemination platform) could be applied for the regular data work in the Timber Section, Trade and Timber Division.

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Moderate

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

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

## **4. Support for processing and dissemination of statistics**

### **Activity 4.2: Dissemination of information and promotion of statistical activities**

#### **Summary description**

Provide statistical data and information about the UNECE Statistical Division's activities for promotional purposes.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Improve awareness about the UNECE statistics and the Conference of European Statisticians.
- ◆ Up-to-date, relevant and well-presented statistical tables and information notes for the "UNECE Weekly".
- ◆ Notes for press and other users on the most important events.
- ◆ Promotional materials published (in hard-copy or through the website) for various purposes, notably "What UNECE Can Do for You" and "Statistics Explained".
- ◆ Targeted promotional activities to identified groups of potential users.

#### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ Implementation and a periodic review of the marketing strategy for the Statistics subprogramme.
- ◆ Regular "Facts and Figures" contributions to the "UNECE Weekly" newsletter.
- ◆ Short articles for inclusion in "UNECE Weekly" on an ad-hoc basis, reflecting important statistical events or news.
- ◆ Promotional announcements for exceptional events will continue to be made available on the UNECE Statistics website and to the targeted mailing lists.
- ◆ Issues of "What UNECE can do for you" on Gender statistics.
- ◆ Four issues of "Statistics Explained", themes to be defined. Press releases and notes for the press for events that may attract the attention of the media, for distribution through the UNECE Information Office.
- ◆ The UNECE Statistics website will be maintained to serve as an up-to-date information source about statistical activities of the UNECE and the CES. The structure and presentation will be adapted to needs of various target groups of users, as identified through usability testing.
- ◆ Active participation in the implementation of the UNECE Web Content Management System and other activities of the UNECE Web Working Group. The goal is to improve the web communication of the UNECE, and to ensure that needs of the Statistics subprogramme are reflected.

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Moderate.

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

4.5 Dissemination, data warehousing

## **4. Support for processing and dissemination of statistics**

### **Activity 4.3: Support to clients**

#### **Summary description**

Support to the external users of the statistical information disseminated by the UNECE Statistical Division via Internet.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Meet the needs of external users to the best possible extent, taking into account the categories of users and availability of resources in the UNECE. Providing the substantive information to reply to user requests.
- ◆ Maintain a good perception of the UNECE statistics among the external users.

#### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ Support to external users through replying to user requests received through a centralised entry point: support.stats@unece.org and other generic e-mail addresses.
- ◆ Monthly analysis of statistics obtained through PC-Axis on access to individual data cubes, as well as Google Analytics implemented on the (i) general website, (ii) database website and (iii) DISA website. Update priorities and enhance the websites according to user needs.
- ◆ Further improvement of IT tools used for the external user support. A particular activity will be a pilot implementation of a simple database for recording data related requests and respective answers (data sources). This simple knowledge management tool is expected to improve efficiency in responding to requests.
- ◆ Satisfaction survey of registered external users.

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Moderate

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

4.5 Dissemination, data warehousing

## **4. Support for processing and dissemination of statistics**

### **Activity 4.4: Statistical profiles of UNECE member countries**

#### **Summary description**

Publication of statistical country profiles of the UNECE region prepared largely on the basis of the UNECE statistical database. This publication is used to increase awareness about the UNECE region, promote the official statistics and the UNECE in general.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Provide a statistical overview of socio-economic situation in countries of the region to non-expert users.
- ◆ Make available on the PC-AXIS database a minimum data set for small countries and territories in the UNECE region (subject to availability of official data) –.

#### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ Issue “UNECE Countries in Figures 2009 – Europe, Central Asia, North America” to be ready for distribution to delegates at the April 2009 session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.
- ◆ Organising the 2009 annual data collection (PC-AXIS cube update) from small countries and territories in the UNECE region.
- ◆ Including key transport indicators (source: UNECE Statistical Database, Transport Division) in country profiles.

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Moderate

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

3.4 Yearbooks and similar compendia

## **4. Support for processing and dissemination of statistics**

### **Activity 4.5: UNData – contribution by the UNECE**

#### **Summary description**

Contribute UNECE data and methodological know-how to the portal of UN System databases, known as UNData.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Contribute to a one stop shop for UN official statistics to the public.
- ◆ Promote common statistical quality standards and implementing relevant metadata standards in the UN statistics.

#### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ Presence of the UNECE's database in relevant parts of the Data Portal (links, search).
- ◆ Contribution to developments related to SDMX compliance of UNData.
- ◆ Contribution of the UNECE's expertise on quality standards on data and metadata.
- ◆ Regular and timely updates of the content.
- ◆ Cooperation on UNData with the other UN Regional Commissions and UN agencies located in Geneva.
- ◆ Participating in the UNData Data Managers Group.

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

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

## 5. Methodological work in economic statistics

### Expected accomplishment:

Increased development of internationally recommended standards and practices to ensure comparable economic statistics

### Indicators of achievement:

(i) The number of new and revised international standards and recommendations in the field of economic statistics endorsed by a statistical authority to which the UNECE has contributed in substance.

*Performance measures:*

2004-2005: 1 standard/recommendation (as of December 2005)

2006-2007: 1 standard/recommendation (as of December 2007)

Target 2008-2009: 1-2<sup>1</sup> standard/recommendation (target set in October 2006)

(ii) The number of statistical areas (according to the DISA classification) related to economic statistics in which the UNECE undertakes substantive methodological work.

*Performance measures:*

2004-2005: 5 statistical areas (as of December 2005)

2006-2007: 5 statistical areas (as of December 2007)

Target 2008-2009: 4<sup>2</sup> (estimate in October 2006)

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<sup>1</sup> The overall target is 4 standards/recommendation for the whole Statistics subprogramme, covering economic statistics, social and demographic statistics and cross-cutting issues.

<sup>2</sup> The overall target is 15 statistical areas covering economic statistics, social and demographic statistics and cross-cutting issues.

## **5. Methodological work in economic statistics**

### **Activity 5.1: National accounts**

#### **Summary description**

Promote the implementation of the methodology of the System of National Accounts (SNA) in the UNECE member countries with an emphasis on the South-East European (SEE) and CIS countries. Carry out research work and surveys of country practices. Contribute to the finalisation of the 2008 SNA and the development of its implementation strategy.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Improve the quality and comparability of national accounts data for the countries in the UNECE region.
- ◆ Ensure that (i) the CIS and SEE countries are informed about international methodological work related to the SNA93 update process and that they are involved in the discussion and the work on the 2008 SNA implementation. Support the implementation of internationally comparable methodologies and good practices in CIS and SEE countries in the field of national accounts, with special focus on the recommendations of the 2008 SNA. Contribute to the SNA update and to the development of international methodological standards, guidelines and manuals for the implementation of 2008 SNA.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Work related to the implementation of the SNA in the CIS and SEE countries in close cooperation with Eurostat, OECD and CIS-STAT. The work is coordinated by the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA) composed of Eurostat, OECD, IMF, World Bank, UN Statistics Division and the UN Regional Commissions.
- ◆ Contribution to the work of the ISWGNA, including the follow up work on the research agenda and finalising the second volume of 2008 SNA.
- ◆ Ensuring that the regional context and the views and comments of UNECE countries are taken into account in the implementation strategy of the 2008 SNA.
- ◆ Technical support to the SEE and CIS countries in development of the implementation strategies for 2008 SNA, improvement of the availability and quality of national accounts data and implementation of other international standards that are related to national accounts (e.g., economic classifications).
- ◆ Technical cooperation with the statistical office of Albania within the context of the UN Delivering as One Pilot, subject to the provision of financial resources; consultancies on annual and quarterly national accounts.
- ◆ Implementation of the recommendations of the 2008 Joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD meeting on national accounts and of the special session for transition economies, including the update of the survey on use of employment data in national accounts.

#### **Meetings**

- ◆ Seminar on national accounts and related macroeconomic statistics: raising the awareness of main users, Albania
- ◆ Seminar on 2008 SNA and related economic statistics in two CIS countries (Belarus and possibly Tajikistan)

**UNECE resources involved**

Moderate

**Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities  
(DISA)**

2.1 Economic accounts

## **5. Methodological work in economic statistics**

### **Activity 5.2: Impact of globalisation on national accounts**

#### **Summary description**

Review the main distortions in national accounts caused by the globalization of economies and develop guidelines to deal with these distortions and improve the quality of the accounts. Service the Joint UNECE/OECD/Eurostat Working Group on the Impact of Globalisation on National Accounts (WGGNA) and its leadership sub-group and ensure linking the work of the Group with the CES and its Bureau.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Provide a forum to discuss how to deal with the main distortions in the compilation and reconciliation of data for national accounts and their source statistics. The Group coordinates its activities with other international initiatives undertaken in this area.
- ◆ Prepare a Report with recommendations/best practices on how to deal with the distortions in the accounts. The Report will include:
  - definition and identification of the unique aspects of globalisation that affect the areas of national accounts;
  - proposals to improve the surveying, the subsequent processing and the integration of statistical data;
  - proposals to arrive at an internationally consistent recording of transactions in national accounts and related source statistics;
  - proposals to improve relevant international guidelines for national accounts;
  - proposals to create a tool to exchange best practices (e.g. website, electronic discussion groups, etc.).

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ First draft of selected chapters for the final Report of the Working Group;
- ◆ Draft operational guidelines on the implementation of the new treatment for recording of goods for processing and merchanting as requested by the ISWGNA in support of the implementation of SNA 2008. Informing the identified specialised working groups that have undertaken work on issues related to the impact of globalisation on statistics and national accounts on the progress of work of WGGNA. Ensuring the input of the relevant groups in the work and the discussions of the topics of the WGGNA research agenda;
- ◆ Providing a forum for countries and international organizations to discuss the list of topics related to the effects of globalisation on the compilation and reconciliation of data for national accounts and the source statistics driving them;
- ◆ Progress report to the 2009 Conference of European Statisticians.

#### **Meetings**

- ◆ May 2009: Second Meeting of the Working Group on the Impact of Globalisation on National Accounts
- ◆ Spring and autumn 2009: two meetings of the Leadership Group of the WGGNA

#### **UNECE resources involved:**

Moderate

**Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities  
(DISA)**

3.3.4 Globalisation

## **5. Methodological work in economic statistics**

### **Activity 5.3: Price indices**

#### **Summary description**

Support development and implementation of internationally accepted standards and practices in price statistics through international cooperation, methodological work and technical assistance, particularly in the South-East European and CIS countries.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Improve the quality and international comparability of price statistics in the region and reduce existing gaps between western and eastern countries;
- ◆ Support the implementation of good practices in the CIS and South-East European countries to ensure that these countries are not left behind in the implementation of international standards and methods on price indices;
- ◆ Provide methodological and technical assistance on price statistics to emerging countries to support implementation of internationally recommended practices;
- ◆ Contribute actively to the international work on price indices in the Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics (IWGPS) and other groups, and to the work on international price index manuals.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Participation in the organisation of the Ottawa Group meeting in May 2009 as member of the Organising Committee;
- ◆ Preparation of the joint UNECE/ILO meeting on CPI in Geneva in May 2010;
- ◆ Contributing to the update of the electronic versions of the CPI and PPI Manuals;
- ◆ Review and publication of the *Practical Guide to Compiling Consumer Price Indices: A Supplementary Handbook to the International Manual on CPI*;
- ◆ Serving as the chair and secretariat of the IWGPS, and report to the UN Statistical Commission;
- ◆ Workshop/training session on price indices in the CIS and South-East European countries.

#### **Secretariat resources**

Moderate

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

2.7 Prices

## **5. Methodological work in economic statistics**

### **Activity 5.4: Business registers**

#### **Summary description**

Support development and implementation of internationally accepted standards and best practices in the area of statistical business registers, including also the use of administrative data, through international cooperation, methodological work and technical assistance, particularly in the South-East European and CIS countries.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Increase the quality and international comparability of statistical business registers in the region and reduce existing gaps between western and eastern countries;
- ◆ Improve consistency of statistical units and business demography data in various databases with the aim to increase the quality and international comparability of business registers;
- ◆ Support the implementation of good practices in the South-East European and CIS countries by providing methodological and technical assistance;

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Organisation of the joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Seminar on Business Registers in June (or July) 2009.
- ◆ Published analytical report based on the results of the UNECE survey on business registers and supporting dataset (on the UNECE website);
- ◆ Comparison of existing practices and NSOs preparedness for including enterprise groups in the statistical BR (South-East European and CIS countries);
- ◆ Comparison of NSOs preparedness to produce business demography statistics based on business registers (South-East European and CIS countries);
- ◆ Identification of the needs for guidelines on business registers in terms of a manual or handbook targeted at the South-East European and CIS countries;
- ◆ Support to South-East European and CIS countries in incorporating the revisions of NACE and ISIC into business registers ;
- ◆ Workshop/training session in one or two CIS countries on a number of practical and legal issues related to development, maintenance and use of business registers in statistics in the CIS countries.
- ◆ Participation in the Friends of the Chair Group on Integrated Economic Statistics.

#### **Secretariat resources**

Moderate

#### **Meetings**

Joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Seminar on Business Registers in June (or July) 2009

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

4.3.2 Business and agricultural censuses and registers

## **5. Methodological work in economic statistics**

### **Activity 5.5: Short-term statistics (STS)**

#### **Summary description**

Support development and implementation of internationally accepted standards, norms and best practices in the field of STS through international cooperation, methodological work and technical assistance, with special focus on the South-East European and CIS countries.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ International cooperation and technical and methodological assistance to NSOs in South-East European and CIS countries in the field of STS.
- ◆ Implementation of internationally accepted standards and methods in the field of STS in NSOs, with the particular purpose to reduce existing gaps in this area between the countries in UNECE region.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Support to South-East European and CIS countries in implementation of seasonal adjustment techniques and methods for de-cumulation of statistical time series.
- ◆ Contribution to the development of Industrial Production Indices in South-East European and CIS countries. Promote the new Index of Industrial Production Manual (UNSD);
- ◆ Assistance to South-East European and CIS countries in improving international comparability of STS and consider and evaluate the need for the production of guidelines for dissemination of STS on-line in South-East European and CIS countries.
- ◆ Support initiatives to align STS with National Accounts standards and NACE and ISIC revisions.
- ◆ Survey of Seasonal Adjustment Practices, Methods and Future Intentions; report for the Bureau on the state of seasonal adjustment practices in the NSOs of SEE and CIS countries.
- ◆ Identified needs for co-ordination of activities in the area of STS, with special focus on developing and transition countries.
- ◆ Workshop/training session on STS in the CIS and South-East European countries.

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Moderate

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

2.1. Macroeconomic statistics

## 6. Methodological work in social and demographic statistics

### Expected Accomplishment:

Increased development of internationally recommended standards and practices to ensure comparable social and demographic statistics

### Indicators of achievement:

(i) The number of new and revised international standards and recommendations in the field of social and demographic statistics endorsed by a statistical authority to which the UNECE has contributed in substance.

*Performance measures:*

2004-2005: 1 standard/recommendation (as of December 2005)

2006-2007: 1 standard/recommendation (as of December 2007)

Target 2008-2009: 1-2<sup>1</sup> standards/recommendations (target set in October 2006)

(ii) The number of statistical areas (according to the DISA classification) related to social and demographic statistics in which the UNECE undertakes substantive methodological work.

*Performance measures:*

2004-2005: 10 statistical areas (as of December 2005)

2006-2007: 10 statistical areas (as of December 2007)

Target 2008-2009: 8<sup>2</sup> statistical areas (target set in October 2006)

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<sup>1</sup> The overall target is 4 standards/recommendation for the whole Statistics subprogramme, covering economic statistics, social and demographic statistics and cross-cutting issues.

<sup>2</sup> The overall target is 15 statistical areas covering economic statistics, social and demographic statistics and cross-cutting issues.

## **6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics**

### **Activity 6.1: Population and housing censuses**

#### **Summary description**

Promote the implementation of the new *CES Recommendations for the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses* and support countries in preparations for the next population and housing census taking into account the different methodological approaches adopted, including register-based censuses and other innovative approaches. Together with UNFPA, UNECE is the leading organization that provides assistance on population and housing census in South Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Provide support to member countries for the planning and successful conduction of a population and housing census in the 2010 census round, based on the *CES Recommendations for the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses*.
- ◆ Provide training and technical assistance to CIS and SEE countries in the field of population and housing censuses, based on their expressed needs.
- ◆ Define a medium-term work plan on future activities in the field of population and housing censuses, in cooperation with the UNECE Steering Group on Population and Housing Censuses.
- ◆ Develop a work plan, in cooperation with UNSD, Eurostat and possibly other organisations, to prepare and disseminate methodological material on census quality evaluation
- ◆ The ultimate objective of the work is the successful conduction in all member countries of a population and housing census in the 2010 round, in compliance with the CES Census Recommendations. This will provide users with relevant, accurate, timely and detailed information on all major domains in social and demographic statistics.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Support to SEE and CIS countries in adopting methodologies for census taking compliant with the CES Census Recommendations, provided through advisory services (see activity 8.2 Statistical capacity building in SEE and CIS countries).
- ◆ Exchange of experiences among census experts in member countries and International Organisations, through the organisation of a general meeting and the possible organisation of expert group meetings among selected experts to discuss specific subjects related to censuses.
- ◆ Support to SEE countries through the organisation of a training workshop, to be possibly organised in cooperation with UNFPA UNSD or other organisations (activity subject to availability of resources).
- ◆ Medium-term work plan on future activities in the field of population and housing censuses.

#### **Meetings**

- ◆ Joint UNECE/Eurostat Meeting on Population and Housing Censuses (27-29 May 2009)
- ◆ Training workshop for SEE countries (subject to availability of funding).

**UNECE resources involved**

Moderate

**Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

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

## **6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics**

### **Activity 6.2: Migration statistics**

#### **Summary description**

Contribute to the improvement of the quality and availability of statistics on international migration by developing common definitions and methods, and promoting them across the UNECE region. Work in this area is coordinated by the Steering Group on Migration statistics and conducted according to the Work Plan to Improve International Migration Statistics.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Increase availability and improve quality of migration data derived from population censuses and household surveys;
- ◆ Improve utilization of administrative data to produce international migration data;
- ◆ Technical assistance to CIS and SPECA countries to improve migration data, by improving existing sources and increasing data exchange within and between countries;
- ◆ Contribute to the UNSD work on migration statistics.
- ◆ Develop a draft framework on international migration statistics on the basis of the outputs produced under the Work Plan to Improve International Migration Statistics (activity to be discussed by the CES Bureau in October 2008).

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Report on definitions and main sources used by countries to produce statistics on international migration.
- ◆ Collection and analysis of practices used to define and measure “difficult-to-measure” migrants in the ECE region.
- ◆ Module to include in household surveys to collect data on migration and remittances, in collaboration with the World Bank and other national and international agencies.
- ◆ Report on the impact of different residency rules on migration statistics.

#### **Meetings**

- Joint ECE-Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics (11-13 November 2009)

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

Main category:

1.1 Population and migration

Secondary category:

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

## **6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics**

### **Activity 6.3: Gender statistics**

#### **Summary description**

Methodological work on gender statistics. UNECE serves as an institutional framework for work on gender statistics in the region, under the coordination of the Steering Group on Gender Statistics. Moreover, the knowledge and expertise of UNECE on gender statistics enhances their unique role in supporting the work on gender statistics in the CIS and Balkan countries in collaboration with other agencies (i.e., UNDP/Bratislava, the World Bank, ILO, UNFPA, WHO).

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Finalise and disseminate the collection of good practices in collecting and disseminating gender related data, and training tools (multimedia presentations and training modules) on gender related issues. These products are being produced by UNECE under coordination of the Task Force on Gender statistics training for statisticians.
- ◆ Technical assistance to countries to define relevant official statistics on emerging gender related issues and to facilitate the integration of gender issues in member countries' statistical systems (see also activity 9.1 on technical assistance).
- ◆ Develop methodological guidelines on producing data on gender-based violence as well as a short module on gender-based violence to be included in ongoing surveys (work conducted by the Task Force on Gender-based violence).

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Collection of good practices in collecting and disseminating gender related data;
- ◆ Training tools (multimedia presentations and training modules) on gender related issues;
- ◆ UNECE Gender statistics website updated and revised;
- ◆ Draft module to collect data on gender-based violence;
- ◆ Contribute to the Inter-Agency Working Group on gender statistics.

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Moderate

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

3.3.2 Gender and special population groups

## **6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics**

### **Activity 6.4: Health statistics**

#### **Summary description**

Work towards the improvement of the comparability of health status statistics in the UNECE region, under the coordination of the Steering Group on Measuring Health Status and in cooperation with the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, the World Health Organisation (WHO) and Eurostat.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Develop guidelines for statistics on health status aiming to help UNECE member countries to design surveys on the measurement of health status and to promote the utilization of common terminology and methodology. The work is done in collaboration with Eurostat and the Washington Group. This initiative is working toward the production of the only regional/international guidelines on measuring health status aiming to achieve international comparability of the data.
- ◆ Explore the possibility of creating a common forum on health statistics together with WHO and Eurostat.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Analysis of results of testing the measurement tool known as Budapest Initiative Mark 1.
- ◆ Finalization of the common instrument to measure health status, in coordination with the existing groups, such as the Washington Group and the Eurostat Group on Health Interview Survey (HIS). This will refine the instrument approved by the CES in 2007 known as Budapest Initiative Mark 1.

#### **Meetings**

- ◆ Meeting of the UNECE/WHO/Eurostat Task Force on Health Status (4-6 February 2009)
- ◆ Joint UNECE/WHO/Eurostat Work Session on the Measurement of Health Status (second half of 2009)

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

1.4 Health

## **6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics**

### **Activity 6.5: Crime and justice statistics**

#### **Summary description**

Work towards the preparation of guidelines for comparable crime and justice statistics based on victimization surveys in the UNECE region (in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime - UNODC) and explore the possibility of developing an analytical framework to compare crime statistics based on administrative records.

#### **Purpose**

Adoption of the UNECE-UNODC Manual on victimization surveys for CES countries. The development of the Manual is conducted by the UNECE-UNODC Task Force on Victim Surveys. The Manual will provide member countries with a useful tool to develop national victimisation surveys under the framework of official statistics and following methodological guidelines agreed at the international level. As a consequence, users will have access to data on victimisation characterised by better quality and comparability.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Finalisation of the UNECE-UNODC Manual on victimization surveys.
- ◆ Identification of issues/areas on administrative sources on crime and justice statistics where work is required to improve methodology and international comparability of data.

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

1.8 Justice and crime

## **6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics**

### **Activity 6.6: Measurement of quality of employment**

#### **Summary description**

Contribute to the work of the Task Force on the measurement of Quality of Employment, aimed at the development of methodologies and identification of good practices on the measurement of various aspects related to labour conditions.

#### **Purpose**

Develop a proposal of a common conceptual framework on the quality of work and employment, including a set of statistical indicators for measuring the quality aspects of labour and employment with their definition and context of utilization, by end of 2009.

The proposal will include:

- A common conceptual framework embracing the existing work in the measurement of the quality of employment within the framework of official statistics,
- A set of statistical indicators to measure the quality aspects of labour and employment;
- Criteria for testing the set of indicators.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Organisation of the second Task Force meeting in Geneva in January 2009;
- ◆ Organisation of the joint UNECE/ILO Seminar on quality of employment in Geneva, in May 2009;
- ◆ Progress report to the Bureau in February 2009;
- ◆ A report on the conceptual framework and validation study results to inform the CES (June 2009).

#### **Meetings**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Task force meeting on quality of employment (January 2009)
- Joint UNECE/ILO Seminar on the Measurement of quality of employment (11-13 May 2009)

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Moderate

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

1.2 Labour

## **6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics**

### **Activity 6.7: Measurement of volunteer work**

#### **Summary description**

Enhance and promote comparability of methods used to measure volunteer work. The work is carried out by the Task Force on Volunteer work in cooperation with John Hopkins University, under the coordination of the UNECE Steering Group on Emerging Issues on Social Statistics. UNECE provides secretariat support to the work.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Contribute to the development of international standards on defining and measuring volunteer work
- ◆ Develop best practices for promoting and achieving international harmonization of social research.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Revised version of recommendations on how to define and measure volunteering, based on the results of the testing conducted in countries.

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

1.10 Political and other community activities

## **6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics**

### **Activity 6.8: Families and households**

#### **Summary description**

Identify new forms of families and households, discuss issues related to their measurement and assess the feasibility of developing common survey modules to measure new forms of families and households. This is a unique activity at international level and contributes to the adoption of standard methods and definitions in the field of social statistics. The work is conducted by the Task Force on Families and Households, under the coordination of the UNECE Steering Group on Emerging Issues on Social Statistics.

#### **Purpose**

Develop an analytical framework to measure new forms of families and households. Based on the framework, survey modules and questions will be developed for testing in existing surveys. The framework will be reviewed taking into account test results. It is expected that the framework will be finalised in 2009.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Finalisation of the analytical framework, definition of typologies of new forms of family and household arrangements, development of survey modules and questions to measure new forms of families and households.

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

4.3.3 Household surveys

## **6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics**

### **Activity 6.9: Indicators related to the goals contained in the Millennium Declaration**

#### **Summary description**

Contribute to the monitoring of progress towards achievement of the goals specified in the Millennium Declaration in South-East European and CIS countries. Contribute to the Annual Secretary General's Report on the progress towards achievement of the Goals worldwide.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Improve capacity of SEE and CIS countries to monitor progress towards achievement of MDGs, obtained by improving coverage and comparability of relevant statistics.
- ◆ Provide a regional perspective to UN activities on global monitoring of MDGs, both in substantive and methodological terms.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Support to the work of the ECE-UNICEF-UNDP-UNFPA Task Force to develop a common regional approach to support countries in monitoring the achievement of MDGs and to rationalise data collection in the areas related to MDGs;
- ◆ Contribution to the Inter-Agency Expert Group Meeting on MDG indicators;
- ◆ Contribute to the sub-groups on gender and employment indicators created by the Inter-Agency Expert Group on MDG indicators.

#### **Meetings**

- ◆ Regional meeting on MDG indicators (28-30 September 2009)

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited.

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

3.3.5 Indicators related to the Millennium Development Goals

## **6 Methodological work in social and demographics statistics**

### **Activity 6.10: Statistics on income, living conditions and poverty**

#### **Summary description**

Provide secretariat support to the preparation of practical guidelines on the implementation of the Canberra Group Handbook on Measurement of Household Income.

#### **Purpose**

Help countries in implementing the Canberra Group Handbook on Measurement of Household Income, reflecting recent advancements in income measurement in specific areas, such as imputed rent, in-kind benefits, capital gains and losses, and own consumption..

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- Setting up a Task Force and agreeing on a work plan and timetable for the work;
- Launching the work to prepare implementation guidelines.

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited.

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

- 1.5 Income and consumption
- 3.3.1 Living conditions, poverty and cross-cutting social issues

## **7. Methodological work in environment and sustainable development statistics**

## **7. Methodological work in environment and sustainable development statistics**

### **Activity 7.1: Sustainable development statistics**

#### **Summary description**

Provide secretariat support to the new Task Force on Statistics for Sustainable Development. The aim of the Task Force is to further pursue the conceptual development of the capital approach in designing indicator sets in the area of sustainable development. The UNECE secretariat ensures linking the work of the Task Force with the CES and its Bureau, and that the work on measuring sustainable development remains within the framework of official statistics.

#### **Purpose**

Develop a list of indicators that meet the quality standards of official statistics to further pursue the conceptual development of the capital approach. Additional work on capital approach should be undertaken bearing in mind the standards of official statistics.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Launching the work of the new Task Force of Statistics for Sustainable Development after the approval of the TOR by the Bureau.
- ◆ Secretariat support to the newly created Task Force.
- ◆ Preparation and servicing the first meeting of the Task Force.
- ◆ Coordination of the work with existing groups working in this area (e.g. the UNCEEA, others) in order to avoid overlap and duplication of work.

#### **Meetings**

First Meeting of the Task Force on Statistics for Sustainable Development, Spring 2009

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Moderate

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

3.3.6 Sustainable development

## **7. Methodological work in environment and sustainable development statistics**

### **Activity 7.2: Environmental indicators**

(Joint activity with the Environment, Housing and Land Management Division)

#### **Summary description**

Work on methodological issues of environmental indicators in cooperation with the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (WGEMA).

#### **Purpose**

Help CIS countries and interested SEE countries to further strengthen and harmonize environmental data collection, producing pan-European environmental indicators and promoting comparability of environmental statistics.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Review the list of indicators covered by the WGEMA's *Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia* from the point of view of official statistics.
- ◆ Capacity building: contribute to organizing a workshop on environmental indicators for CIS countries jointly with the Environment, Housing and Land Management Division (see also activity 9.3);
- ◆ Help to national statistical systems in countries in launching regular publication of environmental statistics compendiums and in modernizing the existing ones.

#### **Meetings**

Joint UNECE/UNSD training workshop on environmental indicators for CIS and SEE countries, April/May 2009

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

3.1 Environment statistics

## **7. Methodological work in environment and sustainable development statistics**

### **Activity 7.3: Statistics related to climate change**

#### **Summary description**

Promote the development of official climate change statistics in the region.

#### **Purpose**

Development of official climate change statistics in the region.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Develop a proposal for an activity related to the use of statistical classifications in the compilation of emission inventories, in line with the recommendations of the UN Roadmap for the development of official climate change statistics.

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

3.1 Environment statistics

## 8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics

### Expected Accomplishment:

Increased development of internationally recommended standards and practices to ensure comparable statistics

### Indicators of achievement:

(i) The number of new and revised international standards and recommendations on cross-cutting issues of official statistics endorsed by a statistical authority to which the UNECE has contributed in substance.

*Performance measures:*

2004-2005: 1 standard/recommendation (as of December 2005)

2006-2007: 1 standard/recommendation (as of December 2007)

Target 2008-2009: 1<sup>1</sup> standard/recommendation (target set in October 2006)

(ii) The number of statistical areas (according to the DISA classification) related to on cross-cutting issues of official statistics in which the UNECE undertakes substantive methodological work.

*Performance measures:*

2004-2005: 5 statistical areas (as of December 2005)

2006-2007: 5 statistical areas (as of December 2007)

Target 2008-2009: 3<sup>2</sup> statistical areas (target set in October 2006)

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<sup>1</sup> The overall target is 4 standards/recommendation for the whole Statistics subprogramme, covering economic statistics, social and demographic statistics and cross-cutting issues.

<sup>2</sup> The overall target is 15 statistical areas covering economic statistics, social and demographic statistics and cross-cutting issues.

## **8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics**

### **Activity 8.1: Management of statistical information systems (MSIS)**

#### **Summary description**

Coordinate the work of the Steering Group on Management of Statistical Information Systems to: (i) provide a forum for exchange of experiences; (ii) make recommendations on the coordination of the activities of different international organizations in this area; (iii) collect, discuss and make available the best practices; (iv) facilitate and encourage implementation of standards and recommendations in the field of statistical data processing in the UNECE region.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Improve statistical information systems in national and international statistical agencies.
- ◆ Improve harmonisation of data models, concepts, etc. in the field of statistical information processing.
- ◆ Cooperate in data and knowledge sharing among statistical agencies in this area.
- ◆ Facilitate sharing of statistical software, modules and solutions.

#### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ Technological and organizational set-up to facilitate sharing of statistical software, modules and solutions.
- ◆ Preparation of the Meeting on Management of Statistical Information Systems (MSIS April 2009), to consider the issues related to IT governance and management, architecture, accessibility and usability.
- ◆ Updated website on leading IT practices for national statistical offices.
- ◆ Recommendations for sharing solutions and statistical software, covering the membership of the Conference of European Statisticians.
- ◆ Updated website on good practices in electronic raw data reporting for national statistical offices.
- ◆ Active cooperation with other international organizations in the work on standardizing electronic data interchange, in particular, promotion of the SDMX content oriented guidelines and other SDMX standards.

#### **Meetings**

Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems (April 2009).

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Moderate

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

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

## **8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics**

### **Activity 8.2: Statistical data editing (SDE)**

#### **Summary description**

Enhance harmonization of methods and concepts, and exchanging experience in issues related to data quality control at the collection phase. A medium-term focus is on editing and imputation of data originating from administrative sources and editing nearer to the source (e.g. editing by respondents).

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Improve quality of statistical data produced within the national statistical offices in the region.
- ◆ Cooperation among experts on issues related to data editing and imputation, exchange of experience, harmonization of methods and concepts and development of new methods and techniques. The UNECE work sessions on statistical data editing provide a unique opportunity within the intergovernmental framework for sharing experiences on editing and imputation.
- ◆ Methodological guides on data quality control, data editing and imputation.

#### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ Work Session on Statistical Data Editing (Neuchatel, autumn 2009) to consider issues on automated editing and imputation, selective editing and macroediting, editing nearer the source, and the impact of increased use of administrative data sources on data editing.
- ◆ Update and maintenance of the Internet Knowledge Base (K-base) on Statistical Data Editing.
- ◆ Identify a future medium term target for the work on data editing, possible topics being: (i) editing nearer the source and embedding data editing within the electronic data reporting, (ii) editing and imputation of data originating from administrative sources and feedback to holders of such sources, (iii) interaction between methods and techniques for data editing and imputation and for statistical disclosure control.

#### **Meetings**

- ◆ Work Session on Statistical Data Editing (Neuchatel, autumn 2009)

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

4.4 Data editing and data linkage

## **8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics**

### **Activity 8.3: Statistical confidentiality and access to microdata**

#### **Summary description**

Enhancing international cooperation, harmonization of methods and exchange of experience in the area of statistical confidentiality. The work covers managerial, statistical and organizational issues related to statistical confidentiality protection and disclosure control for both microdata and tabular data. Particular attention is paid to issues related use of administrative registers and records for statistical purposes, for example linking and matching of records, legal and technical aspects, use of combined sources, etc.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Identify leading practices in national and international statistical agencies in statistical confidentiality protection and disclosure control.
- ◆ Implement and further explain applicable standards and recommendations.
- ◆ Consider specific issues related to use of administrative registers and records, as well as linking, matching and integrating data sets.

#### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ Secretariat support to the CES Task Force on confidentiality and privacy aspects of statistical data integration
- ◆ Final draft guidelines on the integrated datasets to be presented to the CES Bureau and the 2009 plenary session.
- ◆ Work session on statistical disclosure control, in cooperation with Eurostat (late 2009).

#### **Meetings**

- ◆ Work session on statistical disclosure control, in cooperation with Eurostat (late 2009)

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited.

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

4.6 Statistical confidentiality and disclosure protection

## **8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics**

### **Activity 8.4: Statistical metadata (METIS)**

#### **Summary description**

Facilitate harmonisation of data models and structures for statistical metadata. Provide a forum for discussing metadata issues relevant to statistical offices, to complement other international initiatives dealing with data collection needs of international statistical agencies.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Advocacy for statistical metadata issues and the role of metadata in management of statistical processes.
- ◆ Improve the Common Metadata Framework (CMF) for National Statistical Offices, intended to serve as a guide to the existing metadata standards, guidelines and recommendations.

#### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ Secretariat support to the work of the Steering Group on Statistical Metadata:
- ◆ Development of the Common Metadata Framework (CMF):
  - Publishing Part A, “Corporate role of metadata”, in print.
  - Progressing work on Part B, an annotated reference to metadata related standards.
  - Finalizing the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (Part C).
  - Collecting and analysing content of case studies on implementation of metadata systems (Part C and D).
- ◆ Cooperation with SDMX sponsors and input into the development of the SDMX content oriented guidelines related to statistical metadata, with a particular attention to reflecting the views and needs of national statistical offices.
- ◆ Workshop on the Generic Statistical Business Process Model, aiming to finalize and publish the Model shortly after the workshop.
- ◆ Workshop on standards and models (Part B), with a view of making Part B a practical reference guide for national statistical offices on applicable standards.
- ◆ Workshop on implementation aiming to increase the number of case studies included in Part D, and identify lessons learned and key messages for statistical offices.
- ◆ Preparations for the May 2010 Work Session on Statistical Metadata
- ◆ Active cooperation with other international organizations in the work on standardizing electronic data interchange, in particular, of the SDMX content oriented guidelines and other SDMX standards.

#### **Meetings** *(some of the workshops may be organized back-to-back):*

- ◆ Workshop on Generic Statistical Business Process Model (Part C of the CMF).
- ◆ Workshop on metadata models and standards (Part B of the CMF).
- ◆ Workshop on implementation – case studies (Part D of the CMF).

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited

**Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities  
(DISA)**

Main category:

4.1 Metadata

Secondary categories:

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

## **8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics**

### **Activity 8.5: Dissemination of statistical information**

#### **Summary description**

Promote good practices in dissemination of statistical information by national statistical offices in the light of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Publication of good practices in dissemination of statistical information, in particular a Style Guide on the Presentation of Data and Graphics.
- ◆ Improve dissemination strategies for the 2010 round of population and housing censuses by sharing experiences and identifying good practices.

#### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ Support to the work of the steering group on statistical dissemination and communication.
- ◆ Updated collection of good practices in the dissemination and communication of statistics.
- ◆ *Style Guide on the Presentation of Data and Graphics*.
- ◆ 2009 work session on statistical dissemination and communication.
- ◆ Fundraising to be able to organize special sessions for South-East Europe and CIS countries back-to-back with the 2009 work session and increase involvement of those countries in the international work on managing statistical output for dissemination and relations with the media (see also Activity 9.3 on technical assistance).

#### **Meetings**

- ◆ Work Session on statistical communication and dissemination (May 2009)

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

4.5 Dissemination, data warehousing

## **8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics**

### **Activity 8.6: Human resources development in statistical offices**

(Subject to approval by the Bureau)

#### **Summary description**

Facilitate the exchange of experience and development of good practices in the area of human resources management and training in statistical offices.

#### **Purpose**

Support implementation of best practices in human resources management and training in statistical offices.

#### **Output expected by the end of 2009**

- ◆ Secretariat support to further work on human resources development and training in statistical offices and organisation of a seminar on this topic (possibly in 2010), following the recommendations of the CES Forum on Human Resources Management and Training in Skopje in September 2008.

#### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

5.4 Management and development of human resources

## 9. Technical assistance to UNECE member countries

### **Expected Accomplishment:**

Progress in implementation of international standards and good practices by statistical systems, particularly in less developed countries of the region

### **Indicators of achievement:**

(i) The number of countries ensuring better compliance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics through revision of their statistical systems

*Performance measures:*

2004-2005: 3 countries (as of December 2005)  
2006-2007: 6 countries (as of December 2007)  
Target 2008-2009: 6 countries (target set in October 2006)

(ii) The number of UNECE recommendations implemented to improve national institutional frameworks for official statistics

*Performance measures:*

2004-2005: 45 recommendations (as of December 2005)  
2006-2007: 45 recommendations (as of October 2006)  
Target 2008-2009: 45 recommendations (target set in October 2006)

(iii) Percentage of participants to training workshops related to specific subject areas, who expressed that the workshop was useful for their future work.

*Performance measures:*

2004-2005: not available  
2006-2007: not available  
Target 2008-2009: to be defined

## **9. Technical assistance to UNECE member countries**

### **Activity 9.1: Statistical capacity building in SEE and CIS countries**

#### **Summary description**

Multi-annual statistical capacity building in CIS and South-East European (SEE) countries as well as activities on making National Statistical Systems more gender sensitive in these countries.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Improve the statistical capacity in beneficiary countries, increasing their ability to meet the needs of data users at the national and international level. The goal is to assist beneficiary countries in making improvements in statistical areas where the UNECE Statistical Division has a recognised expertise.
- ◆ Increase substantially the production and publication of gender relevant statistical information in the above mentioned sub-regions to provide better knowledge base for policy formulations on equal opportunities for women and men.

#### **Output expected at the end of year 2009**

- ◆ Statistical capacity building in member countries of the UN Special Programme for Economies of Central Asia (SPECA): Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The following projects are in implementation stage in 2009:
  - StatCapaCA project, coming to an end in the first part of 2009, focusing on assistance in the field of population and housing censuses of the 2010 round, disability statistics and non-observed economy;
  - The new UN Development Account Project “Supporting MDG-based development strategies through integrated regional action” implemented jointly in 2009-2011 with UNESCAP; UNECE is focusing on disaggregation of selected MDG indicators for improved monitoring of development needs in the target countries.
  - Evaluation of the results of the StatCapCA Project and planning for new activities in statistical capacity building in Central Asia in for the 2010-2011 biennium.
- ◆ Technical assistance to improve national capacity to produce on statistics on gender-based violence and international migration in the framework of two UN Development Account Projects:
- ◆ Technical assistance in the framework of the World Bank funded project “Capacity Building program on Engendering National Statistical Systems for a Knowledge-Based Policy Formulation in CIS and SEE countries”, 2006-2009, implemented in collaboration with the World Bank Institute, UNDP, UNFPA, FAO and U.S. Census Bureau. The following activities will be carried out:
  - Organization of regional, sub-regional and national workshops;
  - Finalization of training materials;
  - Development of analytical publications on women and men in CIS and SEE countries;

- Organisation of training workshops and other assistance to NSOs in developing methodology, performing surveys, and making use of registries for production and dissemination of engendered statistical information.

The beneficiary countries are Albania, Armenia, Belarus, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Serbia, Montenegro, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

- ◆ Joint Training Workshops with the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) for strengthening the statistical capacity in countries which are members in both UNECE and UNESCAP. 1-2 joint courses will be organized. Proposed topics for the courses are

- Migration Statistics;
- Dissemination of statistical information.

The beneficiary countries are Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, possibly also Armenia and Georgia.

### **UNECE resources involved**

Moderate

### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

Main category:

5.7 Technical cooperation and capacity building

Secondary category:

3.3.2 Gender and special population groups

## **9. Technical assistance to UNECE member countries**

### **Activity 9.2: Short-term technical cooperation**

#### **Summary description**

Specific advisory services in statistics to South-East European (SEE) and CIS countries

#### **Purpose**

Increase statistical capacity and know-how in beneficiary countries in specific aspects of their statistical system. The goal is to quickly meet specific needs expressed by countries of South-East Europe and the CIS in areas where the Statistical Division of UNECE has a recognised expertise.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Short-term assistance to UNECE countries, upon request by national authorities or international organizations, active in the country. Advisory services are provided on a bilateral or multilateral basis, with special emphasis on SEE and CIS countries.
- ◆ Technical assistance is provided on a wide range of areas, such as: general organization of the national statistical system, national strategy for the development of statistics, statistical legislation, dissemination and marketing of statistical information, population census, migration, gender statistics, short-term economic indicators, national accounts, etc.
- ◆ Participation as facilitators, lecturers and discussants in seminars, training workshops, conferences and meetings on topics mentioned above.
- ◆ Carrying out Global Assessments of statistical systems in ECE member countries in cooperation with other international organisations and specialists.

#### **Secretariat resources involved**

Limited

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

5.7 Technical cooperation and capacity building

## **9. Technical assistance to UNECE member countries**

### **Activity 9.3: Planned technical assistance projects subject to availability of external funding**

#### **Summary description**

Below is provided a list of areas where the UNECE member countries have asked for technical assistance but where the external funding from different sources is still being negotiated or sought (status of September 2008).

- 9.3.1 Support for the preparations of the 2010 round of population and housing censuses in the South-East European (SEE) sub-region
- 9.3.2 Support for the development of statistics on international migration for selected CIS countries
- 9.3.3 Support for improved statistical literacy and evidence based decision structures in SEE and CIS countries by increased use of official statistics due to improved dissemination activities;
- 9.3.4 Support for improved business registers for statistical purposes in the SEE and CIS countries;
- 9.3.5 Support for development of statistics on violence against women in SEE and CIS countries;
- 9.3.6 Support for capacity building and statistical literacy activities in the field of economic statistics and national accounts in Albania(One UN Pilot project);
- 9.3.7 Support for the establishment of dissemination databases in selected CIS and SEE countries;
- 9.3.8 Support for improved short-term statistics in the CIS and SEE countries;
- 9.3.9 Support for improved price indices in the CIS and SEE countries;
- 9.3.10 Support for producing environmental indicators to CIS and SEE countries.

#### **Purpose**

- 9.3.1 Develop the census questionnaire design, analysis, dissemination and other skills as part of the preparations for the 2010 round of population and housing censuses in South-Eastern Europe.
- 9.3.2 Improve basis for statistics on international migration by the following activities: (i) carrying out a data exchange exercise on international migration, (ii) organizing expert group meetings, (iii) developing recommendations to improve data at the national level, and (iv) assisting in developing a sustainable mechanism for the exchange of migration data;
- 9.3.3 Promote understanding and use of statistical information by government officials, NGOs, business, research and educational institutions by providing assistance to NSOs in developing improved interaction and communication techniques for different categories of users of statistical information. Enhanced use of statistical information in evaluating and analysing economic and socio-economic phenomena, as well as in policy- and decision-making in targeted countries. Increasing the knowledge of sources of statistical information among existing and potential users of statistical information.
- 9.3.4 Organize a workshop focusing on the legal and practical issues related to developing the business registers (BRs) in the National Statistical Offices in CIS countries. More

- specific themes would be the use of administrative sources for updating BRs, linkages between administrative and statistical units maintained in the BR, and ways to improve the quality of statistical BRs for better use in the compilation of business statistics.
- 9.3.5 Support the measurement of Violence Against Women (VAW) through population based surveys in CIS and SEE countries. This includes the organisation of training workshops on the measurement of VAW, illustrating the main concepts and definitions, as well as the statistical indicators to monitor VAW. Particular attention will be given to existing statistical sources on VAW and the need to conduct population based surveys to have better statistics. Such workshops are targeted to the staff of statistical offices as well as to representatives of line ministries, NGOs and other data users. If funding will be available, support will also be given to some NSOs in the implementation of surveys to measure VAW.
- 9.3.6 Capacity Building activities in Albania, related to the implementation of international and EU Statistical standards in economic statistics. Raising awareness of the main users on the importance of internationally comparable statistics in the context of EU pre-accession. Advisory services on the implementation of the revised system of national accounts (SNA 2008), measurement of GDP and key national accounts indicators. Provide consultancies on the development of a system of quarterly accounts.
- 9.3.7 Support for selected countries to build up dissemination databases for selected CIS and SEE countries, making use of the expertise and know-how accumulated in UNECE on dissemination systems of aggregated statistical information.
- 9.3.8 Support for the development of short-term statistics in CIS and SEE countries, including, inter alia, improved understanding of the role of short-term statistics in building up the reputation of official statistics as a timely information provider, methodologies for seasonal adjustments, compilation of long time series, fixed base and chain linked indices, methodologies for detecting turning points in short-term economic statistics time series, different usage of short-term statistics.
- 9.3.9 Support for the development of price statistics in CIS and SEE countries, including, inter alia, improved calculation methods, population and regional coverage and coverage of goods and services, inclusion of owner occupied housing, methodologies for replacements and quality adjustments, updating of the sample and methods for data collection and validation, calculation of long, fixed based time series of price indices and purchasing power parities.
- 9.3.10 Support to the CIS and interested SEE countries to further strengthen and harmonize environmental data collection, producing pan-European environmental indicators and promoting comparability of environmental statistics.

### **Expected output at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Subject to the availability of external funding; to be defined once external funding has been identified for each element.

### **UNECE resources involved**

Limited

### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

5.7 Technical cooperation and capacity building

## **Part II. Activities undertaken by other UNECE Divisions**

### **10. Subprogramme on Environment, Housing and Land Management**

## **10. Subprogramme on Housing, Land Management and Population - Population Activities Unit (PAU)**

### **Activity 10.1: Generations and Gender Programme (GGP)**

#### **Summary description**

The GGP is a system of national Generations and Gender Surveys (GGS) and contextual databases, which aims at improving the knowledge base for population- related policy-making in UNECE countries. The Programme is developed and maintained by the GGP Consortium of research and statistical organizations. Data collection is carried out by member States; data harmonisation and dissemination by the institutions of the Consortium. Coordination of the Programme at the UNECE is subject to availability of extra-budgetary funds. The UNECE is in consultation with potential donors to obtain such funds for 2009.

#### **Purpose**

The main substantive goal of the programme is to improve understanding of demographic and social development and of the factors that influence these developments, with a particular attention towards relationships between children and parents (generations) and relationships between partners (gender).

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- Availability of harmonised micro-data of Generations and Gender Surveys from more countries
- ◆ GGP contextual databases for more countries
- ◆ Publication of selected standard tabulations of survey data on the web.

#### **Meetings**

- ◆ Meeting of the GGP Consortium Board in spring 2009
- ◆ Meeting of the GGP International Working Group in autumn 2009

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

Main category:

3.3.2 Gender and special population groups

## **10. Subprogramme on Housing, Land Management and Population - Population Activities Unit (PAU)**

### **Activity 10.2: Statistical Support to Monitoring Ageing-Related Policies**

#### **Summary description**

Monitoring policies related to population ageing is part of the follow-up to the implementation of the *Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing* (MIPAA) in the UNECE region. The statistical aspect of this work includes developing and maintaining a database of policy-relevant indicators in the domains of demography, income, wealth, labour market, social protection and financial sustainability. This work is carried out by the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research based in Vienna, The UNECE secretariat assists in data collection and dissemination involving members of the Working Group on Ageing and focal points in national statistical offices.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ To assist UNECE member States in monitoring developments related to population ageing in the context of the UNECE Regional Implementation Strategy of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2008**

- ◆ Data from more countries included in the database of policy-relevant indicators and policy actions;
- ◆ Graphical representation of data in country profiles published on the web.

#### **Meetings**

- ◆ UNECE Working Group on Ageing, autumn 2009

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

3.3.2 Gender and special population groups

## **11. Forestry and Timber Subprogramme**

## **11. Forestry and Timber Subprogramme**

### **Activity 11.1: Collection, processing and dissemination of forest sector statistics**

#### **Summary description**

Collection and dissemination of data on forest resources, production and trade of forest products, and indicators of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM).

#### **Purpose**

Timely and relevant forest statistics, including data on forest resources, production and trade of forest products, forest fires, wood energy and indicators of SFM.

#### **Outputs expected at the end of 2009**

Four organizations - FAO, UNECE, Eurostat and International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO) - work together to collect and disseminate data on production and trade of forest products, through the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (JFSQ). The Forest Resources Assessment 2010 will be carried out by FAO with ECE support to collect data on forest, forest management and forest policies and institutions. Work will take place in 2009 with outputs expected for 2010.

#### Data collection/data management

- ◆ Forest Resource Assessment data;
- ◆ Qualitative and quantitative indicators on sustainable forest management;
- ◆ Forest Products Statistics, including prices of forest products;
- ◆ Joint Wood Energy Enquiry;
- ◆ Wood Balance;
- ◆ Forest Fire Statistics.

#### Dissemination of statistical products

- ◆ Timber Committee's website: <http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/welcome.htm>; in Excel, PDF and HTML formats;
- ◆ CD-ROMs;
- ◆ On-line data on "State of Forest and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007" available through the UNECE Statistical Database.
- ◆ Publications, e.g. the Forest Products Annual Market Review;
- ◆ Reports to governing bodies, particularly the Joint Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics.

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

2.4.1 Agriculture, forestry, fisheries

## **11. Forestry and Timber Subprogramme**

### **Activity 11.2: Analytical and methodological work on forest sector statistics**

#### **Summary description**

Analytical and methodological studies on different issues in the area of forest sector statistics.

#### **Purpose**

- ◆ Methodological improvements in areas such as forest resource assessment and forest fire.
- ◆ Analysis of forest resources, sustainability of forest management, and forest products markets.

#### **Outputs expected at the end of 2009**

The UNECE Timber Section carries out various analytical and methodological studies on different issues in the area of forest statistics, including Forest Sector Country Profiles.

#### Analytical products

- ◆ UNECE regional input to the global Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) 2010 (to be published by FAO).
- ◆ Forest Products Annual Market Review, published as a Study Paper.
- ◆ Forest Sector Country profiles, published as Discussion Papers.
- ◆ Report/Study on Private Forest ownership in Europe.

#### Methodological work:

- ◆ Activities by the teams of specialists on forest resources and sustainable forest management, on forest products markets and marketing, on policies and institutions (Team of Specialists on Eastern Europe).
- ◆ UNECE and FAO are planning to work together with the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE), in particular the Liaison Unit Oslo, on the quantitative and qualitative indicators of sustainable forest management.
- ◆ Discussions with Member States at the Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics on methodological issues.
- ◆ Creation and maintenance of terms and definitions, specifications and classifications in consultation with partners and stakeholders, in particular for the FRA.
- ◆ Develop reporting format for State of Europe's Forests 2011 with MCPFE.
- ◆ Inputs to international statistical classifications, e.g. Harmonised System, International Standard Industrial Classification.
- ◆ Concept of National Wood Resource Balance.
- ◆ Development of methodology and definitions for Joint Wood Energy Enquiry with IEA and FAO.

#### **Meetings**

- ◆ Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics (annual sessions, intergovernmental, usually in March).
- ◆ Inter-secretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics (membership: UNECE, FAO, Eurostat, ITTO, OECD, EEA, CEC). Annual meetings.

- ◆ Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Forest Policies and Institutions (membership: UNECE, FAO, MCPFE). Meetings about once - twice a year.
- ◆ Meetings of the Teams of Specialists.

**Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

2.4.1 Agriculture, forestry, fisheries

## **11. Forestry and Timber Subprogramme**

### **Activity 11.3: Technical cooperation on forest sector statistics**

#### **Summary description**

Capacity building in member countries through workshops and meetings of national correspondents, and through the guidelines for the implementation of international projects, like Forest Resource Assessment (FRA).

#### **Purpose**

Improved capacity of countries in forest sector statistics and dissemination of information.

#### **Outputs expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ A meeting with FAO for countries of the CIS to improve information on forest products data and reply to Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire.
- ◆ A joint meeting with European Environment Agency (EEA) and MCPFE on new classifications of forest types.

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

2.4.1 Agriculture, forestry, fisheries

## **12. Transport Subprogramme**

## **12. Transport Subprogramme**

### **Activity 12.1: Collection, processing and dissemination of transport statistics**

#### **Summary description**

Collection and dissemination of transport statistics, including data on motor traffic, road traffic accidents and rail traffic. Development and maintenance of the on-line UNECE Transport Statistics Database.

#### **Purpose**

Good quality, relevant, user friendly and timely transport statistics.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ Regular collections and dissemination of transport statistics, in cooperation with International Transport Forum and Eurostat, including data on motor traffic, road traffic accidents and rail traffic.
- ◆ Use of PC-Axis for disseminating data collected via the regular questionnaires.

#### Data collection

- ◆ Common questionnaire for the Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics (with International Transport Forum and Eurostat);
- ◆ Questionnaire on Road Traffic Accident Statistics (with International Transport Forum).

#### Dissemination - Publications (online)

- ◆ Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics (jointly with International Transport Forum and Eurostat).
- ◆ Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America, annual publication.
- ◆ Maps and data on E-Road Traffic Census.
- ◆ Maps and data on E-Rail Traffic Census.
- ◆ “Flyer” on transport indicators.
- ◆ Dissemination of transport data through the online UNECE Statistical Database.

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)**

2.4.4 Transport statistics

## **12. Transport Subprogramme**

### **Activity 12.2: Methodological work in transport statistics**

#### **Summary description**

Development of common methodologies to facilitate and improve the collection of information on road and rail traffic flows and infrastructure parameters through surveys and censuses.

#### **Purpose**

Improved international comparability of transport statistics.

#### **Output expected at the end of 2009**

- ◆ The Transport Division, in cooperation with International Transport Forum and Eurostat, maintains the Glossary of transport statistics and recommendations to Governments on motor traffic and rail traffic censuses:
  - Glossary of transport statistics – jointly with the International Transport Forum and Eurostat; adopted in 2008, will be translated in French and Russian and continuously updated;
  - Draft Recommendations to Governments on E-Road and E-Rail Census in 2010, will be circulated in 2009.
  - Draft resolutions on E-Road and E-Rail Censuses in 2010, will be submitted to the Inland Transport Committee in 2009.

#### Pilot questionnaires

- Pilot questionnaire on high speed rail transport (with International Transport Forum and Eurostat).
- Pilot questionnaire on road traffic performance (vehicle–km) (with International Transport Forum and Eurostat).
- Pilot questionnaire on transport statistics of gas through pipelines (with International Transport Forum and Eurostat).
- Pilot questionnaire on transport statistics of dangerous goods.

#### Publications (online)

- ◆ Handbook on Statistics on Road Traffic.
- ◆ Glossary of transport statistics (4th edition).

#### **Meetings**

- ◆ Annual Meeting of the Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6) (Geneva, 15-17 June 2009).
- ◆ Inter-secretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (UNECE, International Transport Forum and Eurostat). Two to three meetings per year, with the location rotating between Geneva, Paris and Luxembourg.
- ◆ Informal meetings on statistics on transportation by buses and coaches.

#### **Relevant Programme Elements in the DISA**

2.4.4 Transport statistics

## **Annex**

**Staff member in charge of the activity and resource implications**

Activity	Staff member in charge	Resources (in person months)		Budgetary source <sup>1</sup>	
		Required	Available		
<b>1. Coordination of international statistical work in the UNECE region</b>					
1.1	Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA)	L. Bratanova	Moderate (6 to 23)	8	R
1.2	Secretariat support for the work of the CES and its Bureau	L. Bratanova	Substantial (≥24)	23	R
1.3	Monitoring the implementation and contributing to development of principles of official statistics	L. Bratanova	Limited (<6)	5	R
1.4	Coordination of technical cooperation in Central Asia	P. Baer	Limited (<6)	1	A
<b>2. Collection, processing and dissemination of macroeconomic statistics</b>					
2.1	Economic data collection, analysis and advice (Macroeconomic database)	C. Hansen/L. Bratanova	Substantial (≥24)	32	R
<b>3. Collection, processing and dissemination of social and demographic statistics</b>					
3.1	Gender statistics database	Chief of SDSS	Substantial (≥24)	41	R
3.2	MDG database	Chief of SDSS	Limited (<6) (Moderate (6 to 23))	4	R+X
<b>4. Processing and dissemination infrastructure for statistics</b>					
4.1	Infrastructure for processing and disseminating statistical data	J. Riecan	Moderate (6 to 23)	10	R
4.2	Dissemination of information and promotion of statistical activities	J. Riecan	Moderate (6 to 23)	11	R
4.3	Support to clients	J. Riecan	Moderate (6 to 23)	9	R
4.4	Statistical Profiles of UNECE countries	J. Riecan	Moderate (6 to 23)	6	R
4.5	UNData – contribution by the UNECE	J. Riecan	Limited (<6)	2	R
<b>5. Methodological work in economic statistics</b>					
5.1	National accounts	L. Bratanova	Moderate (6 to 23)	10	R+X
5.2	Impact of globalisation on National Accounts	L. Bratanova	Moderate (6 to 23)	8	R
5.3	Price indices	C. Hansen	Moderate (6 to 23)	5	R
5.4	Business registers	C. Hansen	Moderate (6 to 23)	11	R
5.5	Short-term statistics (STS)	C. Hansen	Moderate (6 to 23)	15	R
<b>6. Methodological work in social and demographic statistics</b>					
6.1	Population and housing censuses	Chief of SDSS	Moderate (6 to 23)	8	R+X
6.2	Migration statistics	Chief of SDSS	Limited (<6)	4	R+X
6.3	Gender statistics	Chief of SDSS	Moderate (6 to 23)	10	R+X
6.4	Health statistics	Chief of SDSS	Limited (<6)	6	R
6.5	Crime and justice statistics	Chief of SDSS	Limited (<6)	3	R
6.6	Measurement of quality of employment	C. Hansen	Moderate (6 to 23)	7	R
6.7	Measurement of volunteer work	Chief of SDSS	Limited (<6)	2	R
6.8	Families and households	Chief of SDSS	Limited (<6)	3	R
6.9	Indicators related to the goals contained in the Millennium Declaration	Chief of SDSS	Limited (<6)	3	R+X
6.10	Statistics on income, living conditions and poverty		Limited (<6)	2	R
<b>7. Methodological work on environment and sustainable development statistics</b>					
7.1	Sustainable development statistics	L. Bratanova	Moderate (6 to 23)	6	R
7.2	Environmental indicators	L. Bratanova	Limited (<6)	3	R
7.3	Statistics related to climate change	L. Bratanova	Limited (<6)	3	R
<b>8. Methodological work on cross-cutting issues of official statistics</b>					
8.1	Management of statistical information systems	J. Riecan	Moderate (6 to 23)	7	R
8.2	Statistical data editing	J. Riecan	Limited (<6)	3	R
8.3	Statistical confidentiality and access to microdata	L. Bratanova/J. Riecan	Limited (<6)	3	R
8.4	Statistical metadata	J. Riecan	Limited (<6)	7	R
8.5	Dissemination of statistical information	J. Riecan	Limited (<6)	5	R
8.7	Human resources development in statistical offices	J. Riecan	Limited (<6)	1	R
<b>9. Technical assistance to UNECE member countries</b>					
9.1	Statistical capacity building in SEE and CIS countries	P. Baer	Moderate (6 to 23)	7	R+A+X
9.2	Short-term technical cooperation	P. Baer	Limited (<6)	5	A+X
9.3	Planned projects in the field of technical assistance to UNECE member countries, subject to availability of external funding	P. Baer	Limited (<6)	7	R+A+X

<sup>1</sup> R - regular budget, A - Regional Advisor budget, X – extrabudgetary resources.