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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE  
CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
(EUROSTAT)**

Joint UNECE/Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics  
organised in collaboration with UNFPA  
Edinburgh, Scotland, 20-22 November 2006

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

**THE CHALLENGES OF MEASURING EMIGRATION AND REMITTANCES**

Session 3.2. Measuring Emigration through Immigration Data

Draft module on remittances for household sample surveys in Central America and the Caribbean

Submitted by Inter American Development Bank (IADB)

**QUESTIONNAIRE ON REMITTANCES**

**THIS QUESTIONNAIRE SHOULD BE ANSWERED BY THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD OR PERSON ACTING ON HIS/HER BEHALF**

<p>1. <i>Have you or any member of this household received money in the last 12 months for use by this household from relatives or friends living abroad?</i></p>	<p>Yes.....1</p> <p>No .....2 →</p> <p>Doesn't know...8 →</p>	<p>End of section</p> <p>End of section</p>								
<p>2. <i>How often do you receive money from abroad for use by this household?</i></p> <p>Every...</p>	<p><b>18a. Amount</b></p> <p><input type="text"/></p> <p><b>18b. Unit of Time</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Days.....</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Months.....</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Years.....</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Doesn't know.....</td> <td>8</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>(If the reporting person does not know the amount, enter 99998 and in unit of time, enter 8)</i></p>	Days.....	1	Months.....	2	Years.....	3	Doesn't know.....	8	
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Months.....	2									
Years.....	3									
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<p>3. <i>In what month and year was the last time you received money from abroad?</i></p>	<p>Month <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p>Year <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p><i>(If the reporting person does not know the month, enter <b>98</b>)</i>  <i>(If the reporting person does not know the year, enter <b>9998</b>)</i></p>															
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<p>Purchase of urban lands</p>																	
<p>Purchase of livestock</p>																	

Purchase of fertilizers, seeds, animal feed, etc.		
Savings		
Replenishing / paying the cost of someone who went to live abroad		
Celebrating an important event in the household (marriage, birthday, religious festivity)		
Other (specify)		
<p><b>9</b> <i>In the last 12 months, have you or a member of this household received goods or articles from abroad sent free by a relative or friend (excluding small gifts or souvenirs)?</i></p>	<p>Yes.....1                  No .....2 →                  Doesn't know...8 →</p>	<p><i>Move on to Q14</i>  <i>Move on to Q14</i></p>
<p><b>10</b> <i>What type of goods or articles were they?</i></p> <p>(MULTIPLE ANSWER)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clothes ..... a</li> <li>- Jewellery.....b</li> <li>- Vehicles (cars, vans, etc.) .....c</li> <li>- Motorcycles, bicycles, etc.....d</li> <li>- Domestic appliances (television sets, DVD, audio systems, etc.).....e</li> <li>- Computers, computing equipment ..... f</li> <li>- Farm equipment .....g</li> <li>- Equipment for other businesses..... h</li> <li>- Food..... i</li> <li>- Medicines..... j</li> <li>- Other (specify) _ ..... k</li> </ul>	
<p><b>11</b> <i>How much (local currency) do you think it would cost in this country to buy all those goods and articles received in the last 12 months?</i></p>	<p>Doesn't know / can't specify <b>999,999,998</b></p>	
<p><b>12</b> <i>In the last 12 months, have you or anyone in this household received money from abroad sent by a relative or friend to be used for the benefit of the community?</i></p>	<p>Yes.....1                  No .....2 →                  Doesn't know..8 →</p>	<p><i>End of section</i>  <i>End of section</i></p>

<p><b>13</b> For what reason was that money sent?  (MULTIPLE ANSWER)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To build /renew/ support a health establishment .....a</li> <li>- To build /renew / support an educational establishment.....b</li> <li>- To build / renew /support a Religious establishment.....c</li> <li>- To lend support for a community project Such as drains, roads, water, etc. .... d</li> <li>- Other (specify) _____ e</li> </ul>																	
<p><b>14</b> How much money was sent in all for that purpose?</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><b>14a. Amount</b></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><b>14b. Monetary Unit</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 150px; height: 25px;"><input type="text"/></td> <td>US dollars 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Canadian dollars 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Euros..... 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Local currency..... 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Other (specify) _____ 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Doesn't know..... 8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>If the reporting person does not know the amount, use the code 999,998. The amount must be expressed in whole numbers. If the reporting person does not know the amount, the monetary unit must be left blank.</i></p>	<b>14a. Amount</b>	<b>14b. Monetary Unit</b>	<input type="text"/>	US dollars 1		Canadian dollars 2		Euros..... 3		Local currency..... 4		Other (specify) _____ 5		_____		Doesn't know..... 8	
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If the reporting person does not know, enter 9998.

➤ **Remittance of money for use by the household where the interview takes place on the part of the person who went to live in another country.**

It is of interest to identify whether the person who is in another country sends money for use by the household. Here it is only a case of finding out how many people who were members of the household send money.

1. *In the last 12 months has (NAME) sent any money for use by this household?*

Yes	1
No	2
Doesn't know	8

### **1.1 To study the remittances**

In the questionnaire the term *money received from abroad* will be used in general instead of *remittances* in order to prevent biases that the reporting person might have in respect of this concept at the time of supplying information. The term *money* is more manageable by the reporting persons.

#### **1.1.1 Matters investigated in relation to remittances**

The proposal considers the following matters:

- i. Households that receive money
- ii. Frequency with which money is received
- iii. Date of receipt of the last remittance of money
- iv. Amount of money last received
- v. How the money was sent
- vi. Relationship of the person who sends the money from abroad to the head of the household
- vii. Total amount of money received in the last 12 months
- viii. End use of the money received in the household from abroad in the last 12 months
- ix. Receipt of goods from abroad for use by the household
- x. Valuation of the goods received
- xi. Receipt of money from abroad for use in the development of the community

#### **1.1.2 The questionnaire: section on remittances**

This questionnaire should be answered by the head of the household or person acting on his/her behalf.

➤ **Households receiving money.**

It is of interest to identify the households in which at least one of the members receives money.

A 12-month period is considered, as to be consistent with the annual balance sheets drawn up by the central banks of the countries.

The following are considered as remitters: persons who the household regards as current members, persons who were members of the household, persons who have some degree of relationship with a member of the household, persons who are friends of a member of the household.

The money received has to be for the use by the household or at least for use by one of the members of the household. Funds are not considered that are received for delivery to other households or persons alien to the household, or for payment of personal debts of the person who sends the money.

Use of the term *money* is preferred so as to avoid the bias that the reporting person might have in the interpretation of the word *remittance*.

1. *Have you or any member of this household received money in the last 12 months for use by this household from relatives or friends living abroad?*

Yes	1
No	2 → END OF SECTION
Doesn't know	8 → END OF SECTION

➤ **Frequency with which money is received**

The frequency with which the household receives the money will enable us to obtain the degree of regularity and the household's dependence on the remittances.

The answer is broken down into two fields: one for a number and the other for the unit of time.

2. *How often do you receive money from abroad for use by this household?*  
*Every...*

Amount	Unit of time

***Time unit code***

Days	1
Weeks	2
Fortnights	3
Months	4

Years	5
Just once	6
Doesn't know	8

If the reporting person does not know the amount, enter 999998 and leave the unit of time blank.

➤ **Date of receipt of the last remittance of money.**

This question is of use for checking that the information on the remittance corresponds to the set 12-month reference period.

3. *In what month and year was the last time you received money from abroad?*

<i>Month</i>			
<i>Year</i>			

If the reporting person doesn't know the month, enter 98

If the reporting person doesn't know the year, enter 9998

➤ **Amount of money received last time.**

This information will be of use for determining the values of the individual remittances and of the foreign currencies used, as the region has migrants in many countries in the world.

The answer consists of two fields: one for the amount of the remittance and the other to specify the code of the monetary unit corresponding to the remittance.

4. *Last time you received money from abroad, how much did you receive?*

<i>Amount</i>	<i>Monetary unit</i>

***Monetary unit code***

US dollars	1
Canadian dollars	2
Euros	3
Local currency	4
Other (specify) _____	7
Doesn't know	8

If the reporting person does not know the amount, use the code 999,998.

The amount must be expressed in whole numbers.

If the reporting person does not know the amount, the monetary unit must be left blank.

➤ **How the money was sent.**

The aim is to learn the level of use of the formal and informal sources of sending money, especially the proportion that uses informal channels, which cannot be established by Central Banks.

5. *Last time you received money, how was it sent to you?*

Bank transfer	1
Remittance company (MoneyGram, Western Union, etc)	2
Cheque sent by post / courier, brought by someone)	3
Money order / postal order	4
A credit/debit card was credited	5
With a relative/friend who makes the journey	6
Person engaged in bringing money	7
Other (specify) _____	8
Doesn't know	98

**Bank transfer** refers to money that was deposited directly into a bank account of a member of the household.

**Remittance company**, also known as a money transfer company, refers to the fact that the money was sent via a company that is able to make delivery in a very short period of time. Two well-known companies are Western Union and MoneyGram, which may be located in shopping centres, special offices or possibly also with a local bank.

**Cheque sent by post** refers to the fact that the household did not receive the money in cash but as a cheque against any bank, which may be deposited or cashed locally. The cheque may have arrived by normal post or by way of a courier such as DHL, Federal Express, ESM, etc., or else brought by a person who made the journey.

**Money order** refers to postal orders.

**Credit/debit card crediting** refers to the fact that someone from the household receives money credited to his/her credit/debit card.

**With a relative/friend who makes the journey** refers to the fact that the money was brought in cash by a relative or friend who came on a trip.

**Person engaged in bringing money** refers to the fact that the money was brought by someone who is engaged in conveying money on an independent basis.

➤ **Relationship of the person who sends the money from abroad to the head of the household.**

The aim is to determine who the person is who sends the money to the household.  
The current head of the household is placed as the reference person.

6. *What is the relationship of the person who sent the money to the current head of the household?*

Father	1
Mother	2
Spouse	3
Brother/Sister	4
Son/Daughter	5
Other relatives	6
Non-parent	7

➤ **Total amount of money received in the last 12 months**

It is of interest to learn the total amount of money that the household or a member of the household has received for their use from abroad, irrespective of whether the persons who sent it were different from the one who sent it last time.

The calendar months prior to the month of the interview should be considered. For instance, if the interview takes place in the month of October of the year 2006, the last twelve months correspond to the period from October 2005-September 2006. This means that the money received on any day in the month in which the interview takes place is not taken into account. For example, if the interview takes place on 30 September, only the period up to the month of August is considered.

7. *How much money did you receive in all from abroad in the last 12 months?*

<i>Amount</i>	<i>Monetary Unit</i>

***Monetary unit code***

US dollars	1
Canadian dollars	2
Euros	3
Local currency	4
Other (specify) _____	7
Doesn't know	8

If the reporting person does not know the amount, use the code 999,998.

The amount must be expressed in whole numbers.

If the reporting person does not know the amount, the monetary unit must be left blank.

➤ **End use of the money received in the household from abroad in the last 12 months**

The aim is to ascertain the end use of the received money . First of all, we determine the different items to which the household has allocated the money, considering current expenditure for the maintenance of the household, investment in human capital and investment in businesses, saving and investment in housing; we then determine the total monthly amount spent or invested in each of the end uses considered. All the amounts must be expressed in local currency.

When the reporting person says that nothing has been spent in one line, each box of the line in question is left blank.

When the reporting person is unable to specify the amount or does not know, 999,999,999,998 should be entered.

<i>Of the money received in the last 12 months, on what thing or things was it spent? On...</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>9. How much spent in the last 30 days? (Local currency)</i>	<i>10. How much spent in the last 12 months? (Local currency)</i>
<i>READ ALL THE ALTERNATIVES AND MARK THOSE WHERE THE REPORTING PERSON GIVES AN AFFIRMATIVE ANSWER</i>		If the reporting person does not know, enter 999,999,999,998	If the reporting person does not know, enter 999,999,999,998
Everyday expenses of the household (food, clothes, transport, rent of housing, etc.)	<i>a</i>		
Education expenses of a member of the household (monthly amounts, enrolment fees, books)	<i>b</i>		
Medical expenses for treating or preventing illness	<i>c</i>		
Purchase of furniture and electrical appliances for the household	<i>d</i>		
Purchase of computers and computing equipment or articles	<i>e</i>		
Purchase of vehicles	<i>f</i>		
Payment of debts	<i>g</i>		
Housing purchase / building / repair / improvement	<i>h</i>		

Investing in an agricultural business	<i>i</i>		
Investing in a non-agricultural business	<i>j</i>		
Purchase of farming lands	<i>k</i>		
Purchase of urban lands	<i>l</i>		
Purchase of livestock	<i>m</i>		
Purchase of fertilizers, seeds, animal feed, etc.	<i>n</i>		
Saving	<i>o</i>		
Replenishing / paying the cost of someone who went to live abroad	<i>p</i>		
Celebrating an important event in the household (marriage, birthday, religious festivity)	<i>q</i>		
Other (specify)	<i>r</i>		

➤ **Receipt of goods from abroad for use by the household**

The aim is to find out if the household has received goods sent free from abroad by relatives or friends and for the use by this household. The reference period is the 12 calendar months prior to that of the interview.

The first question asks whether the household received goods or not, and the second enquires about the type of good received.

9. *In the last 12 months, have you or a member of this household received goods or articles from abroad sent free by a relative or friend (excluding small gifts or souvenirs)?*

Yes                                    1  
 No                                        2 → Q14  
 Doesn't know                    3 → Q14

10. *What type of goods or articles were they? (MULTIPLE ANSWER)*

Clothes	a
Jewellery	b
Vehicles (cars, vans, etc.)	c
Motorcycles, bicycles, etc.	d
Domestic appliances (television sets, DVD, audio systems, etc.)	e
Computers, computing equipment	f
Farm equipment	g
Equipment for other businesses	h
Food	i

Medicines \_\_\_\_\_  
Others (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

j  
k

➤ **Valuation of the goods received in the last 12 months prior to that of the interview**

This questions sets out to obtain an approximate value of all the goods or articles received by the household in the last 12 months. The amount should be expressed in the local monetary unit of the country. For the conversion of foreign currency units the exchange rate of a fixed prior to the start of the survey should be used, so that the indexing that might be necessary can be carried out.

11. *How much (local currency) do you think it would cost in this country to buy all those goods and articles received in the last 12 months?*

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Doesn't know / can't specify 999,999,998

➤ **Receipt of money from abroad for use for community development purposes.**

This set of questions aims to determine the remittances of money for community development purposes by residents abroad. The remittances may be for the building of physical infrastructure or for funding works or measures of social support for the community in general or specific groups.

12. *In the last 12 months, have you or anyone in this household received money from abroad sent by a relative or friend to be used for the benefit of the community?*

- Yes 1
- No 2 → END OF SECTION
- Doesn't know 3 → END OF SECTION

13. *For what reason was that money sent?* (MULTIPLE ANSWER)

- To build / renew / support a health establishment a
- To build / renew / support an education establishment b
- To build / renew / support a religious establishment c
- To lend support for a community project such as drains, roads, water, etc. d
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_ e

14. *How much money was sent in all for that purpose?*

<i>Amount</i>	<i>Monetary Unit</i>

**Monetary unit code**

US dollars	1
Canadian dollars	2
Euros	3
Local currency	4
Other (specify) _____	7
Doesn't know	8

If the reporting person does not know the amount, use the code 999,998.

The amount must be expressed in whole numbers.

If the reporting person does not know the amount, the monetary unit must be left blank

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