Norbert Rainer
Joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD
Meeting of the Group of
Experts on Business Registers

Brussels, Belgium
21-23 September 2015

Special Session:
Guidelines on Statistical
Business Registers
Content

- Structure of the guidelines
- Activities undertaken since the 2013 Joint Meeting
- CES Bureau: Request on follow-up on the implementation of the guidelines
- Endorsement by the Conference of European Statisticians
- Topics for further work and research
- Probable roles of the Expert Group in follow-up on the implementation and in supporting the topics for further work and research
Structure of the guidelines (1)

Chapter 1  Introduction
Chapter 2  Roles of SBR
Chapter 3  Coverage of SBR
Chapter 4  Units in the SBR
Chapter 5  Characteristics of Units
Chapter 6  Data Sources of the SBR
Chapter 7  Maintenance of the SBR
Chapter 8  Survey Frame Methodology
Chapter 9  Dissemination
Chapter 10  Quality
Chapter 11  Key Consideration in Establishing on SBR
Chapter 12  Topics for Further Work and Research
Structure of the guidelines (2)

Annex A  Characteristics of Units by Unit Type
Annex B  International Classifications
Annex C  Examples of Statistical Business Registers
Annex D  Examples Relating to SBR Quality Assurance
Annex E  Additional Concepts and Procedures
Glossary
References
### Activities since the 2013 Joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting of the Group of Experts on Business Registers (1)

<table>
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<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Joint Experts Meeting, Sept. 2013</td>
<td>Presentation of draft chapters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task Force Meetings, Sept. 2013, April 2014</td>
<td>Review of second version draft chapters; further drafting</td>
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<td>Editing, Feb. 2014</td>
<td>Beginning of editing work of a consultant financed by Statistics Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>24th Meeting of the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers, Sept. 2014</td>
<td>Presentation of the third version draft chapters and request of written comments</td>
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<td>Bureau Meeting of the Conference of European Statisticians, Oct. 2014</td>
<td>Interim report; request of the Bureau to have guidelines ready for CES plenary in June 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bureau Meeting of the Conference of European Statisticians, Feb. 2015</td>
<td>Review of draft guidelines and request to distribute the documents to all members of the CES for electronic consultation in spring 2015</td>
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### Activities since the 2013 Joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting of the Group of Experts on Business Registers (2)

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<tr>
<td>CES members, March- April 2015</td>
<td>Electronic consultation of the fourth version draft chapters</td>
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<td>Final version, May 2015</td>
<td>Incorporating comments and proposals received (from 42 countries and 4 international organisation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CES plenary session, June 2015</td>
<td>Endorsement of the Guidelines on Statistical Business Registers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final editing and preparation of a printed version, June-July 2015</td>
<td>Final editing and formatting</td>
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Ex Report on the Bureau meeting concerning task forces and international recommendations and guidelines:

c) “It is important to inform about and promote the products after they have been finalized.

d) The Bureau highlighted as a good practice that expert meetings follow up on the implementation of the various CES guidelines developed in recent years. .... The expert meetings should focus on sharing experience and identifying difficulties in implementing the CES guidelines to provide feedback for improving the guidelines.”
Ex Report on the thirty-six plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (ECE/CES/89):

“49. The following issues were raised in the discussion:

a) The Guidelines were found comprehensive and helpful in supporting countries to maintain and improve statistical business registers;

b) It was noted that the Guidelines will be important for other regions. The Guidelines will be presented to a meeting of a working group on business registers Latin America in December. A possibility to translate the Guidelines into Spanish will be considered.

c) One area for future work is elaborating best practices for coordination with other organizations that provide data for business registers, such as Central Banks.”
Ex Report on the thirty-six plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (ECE/CES/89):

“1. Action taken by the Conference

50. The Conference endorsed the *Guidelines on Statistical Business Registers*, and thanked all countries and organizations that contributed to the development of the Guidelines.

51. The Conference encouraged the joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Expert Group on Business Registers to address the proposed topics for future work.

Tasks of the Joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting of the Group of Experts on Business Registers

Tasks assigned to the Expert Group:

➢ Promote the guidelines

➢ Follow-up on the implementation of the guidelines

➢ Address the topics for further work and research
Guidelines focus on providing methodological and practical guidance to countries for establishing and maintaining SBRs.

However, guidelines cannot resolve a number of emerging issues that will pose major challenges in the future.

Developing new methods and good practices is resource demanding.

Sharing experience among countries and common development projects.
Topics for further work and research grouped into eight categories:

- **Statistical Units and Profiling**
  Statistical unit enterprise and enterprise group, experiences in profiling large and complex enterprises, best practices in coding, etc.

- **SBR as a Backbone of Economic Statistics**
  Multi-source datasets, data warehouse, GSBPM and GISM, efficient maintenance strategies, balancing growing user demands, etc.

- **Use of Administration Data Sources**
  Sharing best practices in cooperation with administrative registers, quality, units in the administrative registers, conflicting information, register-based economic census etc.
Topics for Further Work and Research (Chapter 12) (3)

- **Use of New Data Sources**
  Experience in new data sources, including big data, electronic collection methods, etc.

- **International Trade and Economic Globalisation**
  SBR requirements, new global production arrangements (e.g. factoryless goods producers), micro-data linking, supra-national SBR, etc.

- **Development of New Statistics**
  SBR as part of a set of interrelated/linked statistical registers, statistical units in business demography, geocoding in the SBR, etc.
Topics for Further Work and Research (Chapter 12) (4)

➤ Methodological Developments
Database software for SBR, including software services for SBR maintenance, methodology, input data validation methods, matching methodology, identifiers, etc.

➤ International Comparability
Covers all aspects that make SBRs more comparable (for example international comparable quality indicators and quality assessment framework), etc.
How can the Expert Group support the follow-up the guidelines (1)

- Identify issues and milestones relevant for implementation assessment
- Elaborate a questionnaire addressing implementation stages and use of the guidelines
- Select specific implementation issues as session topics of the Joint Meetings
- Select topics for further work and research as session topics of the Joint Meetings
- Increase the workshop/interactive character of the Joint Meetings
How can the Expert Group support the follow-up the guidelines (2)

- Review of the country progress report template to cover information on implementation issues and to better identify topics for further work and research
- Create a joint discussion forum for exchange of experience
- Create a BR wiki with relevant selected documents and papers (International Organisations, Joint Expert Group, Wiesbaden Group, Eurostat, other respective events)
- Ask countries to provide documents on good practices in certain well defined areas
Please address queries to:
Dr. Norbert Rainer

Contact information:
Guglgasse 13, 1110 Wien
Tel: +43 (1) 7703
Fax: +43 (1) 71128 7053
norbert.rainer@statistik.gv.at

Thank you for your attention!