Capacity building initiatives for economic statistics in Asia and the Pacific

Bringing it all together

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UNSD

Advocates for a strategic programming at the country level to plan for the changeover to the 2008 SNA and the improvement of the supporting statistics
- capacity building activities in cooperation with the Regional Commissions
- in line with the RPES outputs

Principles of the 2008 SNA implementation:
- Use NSDS as the strategic planning framework;
- Built around statistical production process, scope and compliance for the national accounts and supporting economic statistics;
- Modalities: training and technical cooperation, publication of manuals and handbooks, research and advocacy;
- Stages lead to the change over to the 2008 SNA.
UNSD (cont’d)

- Stages the changeover to the 2008 SNA:
  - Stage I. Review of a strategic framework and detailing of national and regional implementation programmes;
  - Stage II. Adaptation of classification frameworks, business registers and frames, surveys, administrative data sources and information technology infrastructure;
  - Stage III. Application of adapted frameworks and changeover.

- These stages correspond to the activities

World Bank plan

- Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (TFSCB):
  - Myanmar (development and costing of the NSDS)
  - Viet Nam (focus on data dissemination)

- Special Results Facility (SRF):
  - Afghanistan (general support to statistics)
  - Lao PDR (general support to statistics)

- STATCAP programs (loans for statistical activities):
  - Kazakhstan (general support to statistics)
  - Indonesia (general support to statistics)
  - Mongolia (general support to statistics)
  - Russian Federation (general support to statistics)
World Bank plan (cont’d)

- Development Grant Facility (DGF) provides support to the Accelerated Data Program (implemented together with PARIS21).
  - Provides support to many countries in the region in the area of microdata documentation and dissemination, e.g. labor force survey, income/expenditure surveys, enterprise surveys.

- ECASTAT (a multi-donor Trust Fund catering to Eastern Europe and Central Asia countries) is likely to fund medium sized operations in several ECA countries, and CIS.

- Reimbursable Advisory Services (RAS) – TA to Turkmenistan for the development of National accounts and preparation for the next ICP round

- ICP program implemented by ADB in the region
  - Two pillars of the program are price statistics and national accounts

- Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (TFSCB) – proposal submitted by ESCAP (in the review process)

Paris21

- Develop training module on the new/updated NSDS Guidelines

- Roll-out a training program (possibly in collaboration with SIAP) in 2014
  - Take into consideration the core set of economic statistics in the design of training module for the region
CIS-STAT

- Implementation of SNA 2008 as the basis of the development of the System of National Accounts
  - CIS-STAT prepares recommendations to the countries on the use of main provisions of the SNA 2008
  - Translation into Russian

- Implementation of the Programme of International Comparisons of GDP on the basis of purchasing power parities of currencies
  - CIS-STAT is the coordinator of ICP in the CIS region

- Creation of the basis for the development of sustainable national potential in the field of agricultural and rural statistics.
  - CIS-STAT to carry out coordination of works on implementation of the “Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics” in the CIS region

UNECE work plan for 2014

- Work with countries to further develop and promote implementation of international standards and recommendations, particularly in the areas of:
  - Implementation of the global standard: 2008 SNA in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
  - Implementation of international standards and recommendations on Consumer Price Indices (CPI)
  - Organise (jointly with ILO) expert group meeting on CPI in May 2014 in Geneva
  - Work on the conceptual and measurement challenges posed by global production
  - Participate in the Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics
    - focus on short-term economic statistics
  - Develop international guidelines on statistical business registers (for adoption by the CES in 2015)
EFTA

- Technical cooperation mainly to complement Eurostat and UNECE in their programmes
- Specific projects in Asia-Pacific:
  - Support the implementation of the 2008 SNA in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) countries (plus Mongolia, Turkey and some of the Western Balkan countries)
  - Support Adapted Global Assessment (AGA) in Mongolia
  - Planning a course in the use of administrative register in 2014 where Central Asian countries will be invited

Destatis

- China - technical co-operation to focus on employment and industrial statistics
- Kazakhstan - World Bank funded co-operation project
  - Aims to develop nearly all areas of its official statistics
  - Destatis is heading a consortium that also comprises Finland, the Republic of Korea, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Russia
- Mongolia - World Bank twinning project
- Armenia - EU-funded twinning project
Statistics Norway

Kyrgyzstan – Three main components (period 2014-2016):
- Organizational Development - including project management,
- IT improvements, and
- establishment of an agricultural register.

Tajikistan – 3-year project for the development of several areas of statistics, including Economic statistics (project still under consideration for funding)
- Price statistics, Financial statistics, External and internal trade, Update and improve quality and coverage on fuel and energy balance statistics

Mongolia – an expert for the evaluation of environment statistics and accounts in first quarter 2014

Armenia – areas include population statistics/register, energy and environment statistics (to be applied for in 2014)

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

The Project on Improving Official Statistics in Cambodia Phase 3 (2010.10-2015.3)
- Economic Census
- Inter-censal economic survey
- Training
Eurostat

- Seminars on quality issues
- Training courses on essential SNA and ERETES (software to produce national accounts)

ESCAP Modernization Projects

- MSIS 2013 Outcomes
  - Focus on key priority areas
  - Establish working groups on: strengthening NSS, GSBPM, SDMX, data dissemination, e-collection, big data
- ADB/ESCAP SDMX project
  - Promote the use of SDMX among national statistical systems in the region and build regional capacities in applying it
  - Mapping of DSD for data exchange and capacity building on using tools
  - Focus on economic statistics indicators (ADB Key Indicators), most likely limited to NA or BoP in the first stage
  - In the pilot phase focus on 4 to 5 countries
Where next?

- What are the immediate and long-term priority areas?
- How can we strengthen coordination of technical assistance among the international and bilateral development partners?
- How can we make sure that the activities of the development partners are aligned with the countries’ development plans?
- Do the work plans and activities match with the Core Set and the Capacity Screening results?

Thank you!