

Cooperation in the field of statistics in the Eurasian Economic Union

Data and statistics for the post-2015 development agenda:
implications for regional cooperation on statistics
in Asia and the Pacific

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Issues for Discussion

- Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) as a new regional integration community
- Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) as a regulatory body of the EAEU that produces and uses statistics
- EEC practical steps to coordinate statistics in the EAEU in light of data revolution
- Further cooperation and expectations

Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) is a new integration community on the world map



From CU and SES in 2014 to EAEU in 2015

2015 year



EEC as a regulatory body of the EAEU

- EEC - a permanent supra-national regulatory body of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), which includes Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Russia. Kyrgyzstan is a candidate to join.
- EEC has 23 departments, including the Department of Statistics with 33 staff members.
- EEC Department of Statistics is carrying out coordination through the work of the Advisory Committee on Statistics and its subcommittees, which are the collegial bodies where statisticians of the EAEU Member States participate.

EEC as a user of statistics

- EAEU aims at integration of all sectors of the economy. Therefore EEC needs data in almost all areas of statistics (including statistics from Central Banks and Ministries of Finance).
- National statistical systems of Member States produce a lot of data according to international standards. However it is not easy to use existing data directly for decision-making in EEC. Some data are released too late, some are not produced at all, some are not well-documented or harmonized, yet some are not available at the level of detail needed.



How to break down barriers between EEC data users and data produced by Member States?

EEC as a Producer of Statistics

- EEC produces data to break down barriers between its own users and the data produced by Member States.
- The purpose of production – to get data into the most comparable form by coordinating statistical activity of Member States.
- Sources - existing data provided by Member States and international organizations.
- EEC Advisory Committee on Statistics has approved more than 200 questionnaires to collect data from Member States.

EEC practical steps: coordination of the GFS

Existing GFS data	Timeliness	Comparability
<i>National methodology</i>	<i>40 days</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>IMF methodology</i>	<i>60 days</i>	<i>High</i>

National legislation does not always take into account the requirements of the GFS Manual. As a result, the GFS data is generated twice: using national methodology and IMF methodology.

The tasks of coordination: Improvement of national legislation and acceleration of implementation of GFS Manual. Data based on national methodology should converge with data based on the IMF methodology.

Expectations: Reduced data generation labor costs, improved data comparability and timeliness.

Estimations of the number of financial entities

	Belarus	Kazakhstan	Russia
<i>According to Business Register</i>	655	4 954	78 839
<i>According to Administrative Register (licensed activity)</i>	493	136	2 318

Findings of discussions on the account of institutional units of the financial sector:

- Data on the number of financial entities according to the administrative and statistical registers is difficult to match because AR doesn't contain statistical classifications.
- The national (central) banks and statistical agencies do not efficiently cooperate on the account of the financial sector units.



How many financial organizations in the Economy?

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Implementation of new technology

- EEC develops an information system to collect, process and disseminate data on the basis of GSBPM.
- The system provides the possibility to transfer data in accordance with SDMX standard. This will stimulate Member States to introduce advanced data exchange standards (SDMX).



Reducing the cost of data exchange

The EEC offers a platform for discussions

In 2014 we have held:

- 2 meetings of the Advisory Committee on Statistics, 6 subcommittees, and 14 working groups. To reduce costs the majority of meetings were held via videoconference.
- The first international seminar on coordination of statistical activities on implementation of the revised international statistical standards and measurement of the financial services. The participants outlined the most relevant topics for further discussions: harmonization of classifications in BR and AR; coordination of GFS 2014 implementation; improvement of mirror statistics on international investments and trade in services.

Expectations

We hope that:

- Statistical cooperation in the EAEU will increase usefulness and efficiency of national statistical systems and accelerate their improvement.
- International organizations and experts will be interested in cooperation with the EEC.

Thank you!