



OECD SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC STATISTICS WORKING PARTY
(STESWP)

**Analysis of OECD Committee on Statistics (CSTAT) consultation on OECD
member country activities on short-term statistics in China and India**

Paper prepared by Denis Ward
Statistics Directorate, OECD

Submitted to the Working Party under item 7 of the draft agenda

Meeting:
26 – 28 June 2006

Franqueville Room
OECD Headquarters, Paris
Starting at 9:30 a.m. on the first day

OECD SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC STATISTICS WORKING PARTY (STESWP), PARIS, 26-28 JUNE 2006

ANALYSIS OF OECD COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS (CSTAT) CONSULTATION ON OECD MEMBER COUNTRY ACTIVITIES ON SHORT-TERM STATISTICS IN CHINA AND INDIA

The aim of the brief consultation conducted by the OECD Committee on Statistics (CSTAT) in April 2006, was to obtain summary information about recent, current or proposed statistical activities in China and India by OECD Member country agencies attending the June 2006 meeting of Short-term Economic Statistics Working party (STESWP). The purpose was to obtain further input from national perspectives on the evolution of short term economic statistics in these countries for discussion at the June 2006 STESWP meeting.

Information was sought on a range of statistical activities including either the direct collection of short-term economic statistics (STES) and associated metadata from government agencies in China or India, or the provision of technical assistance on a bilateral or multilateral basis (formal or informal) in short-term economic statistics.

The results of the consultation are presented in the following table. These are only partial and not all current or proposed national agency work in the two NMEs is included. Further input will be sought at and following the June 2006 STESWP meeting.

| OECD Member Country | STES activities in China | STES activities in India |
|---------------------|--|---|
| Australia | none | Assistance with the development of a business register in India |
| Austria | none | none |
| Belgium | No response to consultation | No response to consultation |
| Canada | none | none |
| Czech Republic | none | none |
| Denmark | None, though occasional study visits received from statistical agencies in China | none |
| Finland | Refer UK | none |
| France | none | none |
| Germany | We have co-operations since 1993 with China. This includes German expert consulting in China and Chinese visiting study missions to our NSO. Our co-operation covers the exchange of (print) publications and technical support in different areas. Currently planned are the following missions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> national accounts | More limited co-operation in the areas of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> production statistics longer lasting co-operation project from 2006 to 2010 (consumer prices, producer prices, service prices); monetary aggregates. |

| OECD Member Country | STES activities in China | STES activities in India |
|---------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • retail trade • other services: German Expert consulting in June 2006 in China (covered topics are: data collection, sampling, data analysis, data quality); • earnings; • employment. | |
| Greece | No response to consultation | No response to consultation |
| Hungary | none | none |
| Iceland | No response to consultation | No response to consultation |
| Ireland | No response to consultation | No response to consultation |
| Italy | none | none |
| Japan | none | none |
| Korea | No response to consultation | No response to consultation |
| Luxembourg | No response to consultation | No response to consultation |
| Mexico | none | none |
| Netherlands | none | none |
| New Zealand | Use of administrative sources (e.g. taxation or other records) as an alternative to direct surveying and /or as update sources for business frames, benchmarks, etc; development of household survey frames or business registers, etc. | none |
| Norway | No response to consultation | No response to consultation |
| Poland | No response to consultation | No response to consultation |
| Portugal | none | none |
| Slovak Republic | none | none |
| Spain | <p>Since 1999 INE has maintained cooperation with China from two different standpoints: B1. Under the CHINASTAT Programme and B2. Bilateral cooperation activities</p> <p>B1. CHINASTAT Programme</p> <p>CESD-Madrid formed part of the European consortium headed by CESD-Community and also composed of ONS (United Kingdom), Her Majesty Customs (United Kingdom), INSEE, French Customs, DIAL, CESD-Rome (Italy) and CDG-Munich (Germany).</p> | none |

| OECD Member Country | STES activities in China | STES activities in India |
|---------------------|---|--------------------------|
| | <p>INE took part in the subproject relating to statistical classifications in the economic field.</p> <p>Cooperation on this project took place over the period 1999 - 2001.</p> <p>By years, cooperation was as follows:</p> <p>1991</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mission of 2 INE experts to Beijing. The main aim of the mission was to analyze the methodological criteria used in the classifications proposed by the United Nations and the way in which these classifications were adapted to the European Union. As a result of these meetings a working schedule was agreed consisting of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Analyzing international classifications on a detailed basis; ▪ Harmonizing the international classification and the current People's Republic of China classifications; ▪ Conducting analyses that will assure the feasibility of a classification with a structure similar to that proposed by the United Nations based on the actual circumstances of this country. <p>A computer program was also supplied on Classifications Management (GESCLA), developed by INE and adopted by EUROSTAT, and its manual was translated into Chinese, which makes it possible to establish equivalences between the different international classifications.</p> <p>2000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visit to INE of a delegation from the People's Republic of China National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) in order to review the state of the jobs and become familiarized with different software tools used in the area of classifications. - Mission to Beijing of two INE experts in order to give NBS technical assistance on analysis of the structure of the first draft of the new Chinese classification of activities and its possibilities of harmonizing with international classifications. <p>2001</p> <p>Work was done on reviewing and improving the draft classifications by means of two missions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mission to Beijing of an INE expert | |

| OECD Member Country | STES activities in China | STES activities in India |
|---------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| | <p>- Visit to INE of a NBS delegation.</p> <p>B.2 Bilateral cooperation activities</p> <p>2004</p> <p>- Visit to INE of a NBS delegation to study some general aspects of the Spanish Statistical System, basically in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Environmental surveys and accounts. ▪ Annual industrial survey ▪ Statistical dissemination ▪ Family budget survey. <p>- Visit to INE of a Shanghai Statistics Bureau survey to get to know the Spanish National Statistical System and to examine price statistics in depth.</p> <p>2005</p> <p>- Visit to INE (28 September) of a Shanghai Statistics Department in order to request INE cooperation in the area of Sampling Surveys.</p> | |
| Sweden | No response to consultation | No response to consultation |
| Switzerland | Use of administrative sources (e.g. taxation or other records) as an alternative to direct surveying and /or as update sources for business frames, benchmarks, etc; development of household survey frames or business registers, etc. | none |
| Turkey | No response to consultation | No response to consultation |
| United Kingdom | The NBS undertook a four year co-operation program with the UK and Finnish Statistical Offices , funded by the EU to establish whether a household survey could be established that could measure labour market conditions. In December 2001, at the end of the preparation period, a trial survey was undertaken covering 1000 households in each of six provinces. The pilot program indicated that a higher frequency household survey was feasible in China and could generate adequate national data with a sample of around 30 000 households and would clearly show that urban unemployment was higher than that revealed by the registered unemployment rate. (OECD, 2005, <i>OECD Economic Surveys: China</i> , Volume 2005/13, OECD, Paris | |
| United States | Bureau of Labour Statistics | Bureau of Labour Statistics |

| OECD Member Country | STES activities in China | STES activities in India |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Under the auspices of a project funded by the Bureau of International Labor Affairs, US Department of Labor, the BLS Division of International Technical Cooperation designed and conducted a two-week special program on labor market information for six (6) staff from the National Bureau of Statistics and six (6) staff from the Ministry of Labor and Social Security. Topics included the design, collection, compilation and dissemination of the following programs: household labor force surveys; establishment-based labor force surveys; occupational employment surveys; administrative data sources uses; and wage and compensation surveys.</p> <p>The BLS Division of Foreign Labor Statistics funded a study by Dr. Judith Banister of China's manufacturing employment, earnings, and labor compensation statistics. Results were published in the July and August 2005 issues of the Monthly Labor Review: http://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/2005/07/art2full.pdf http://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/2005/08/art3full.pdf</p> <p>The Division is currently funding further work on China, including updates of the hourly compensation estimates and a study of China's first economic census which was conducted in 2005.</p> <p>Bureau of Economic Analysis</p> <p>On September 23, 2005, BEA hosted a group, led by Deputy Director General Yanzhou Gu, from Beijing Municipal Bureau of Statistics. BEA Chief Statistician Dennis Fixler presented an overview of BEA and described the U.S. federal statistical system. John Kort, Division Chief of BEA's Regional Economics Analysis Division, introduced RIMS II model and its applications. The purpose of this event was to provide a greater understanding of BEA and its products of the U.S. statistical system.</p> <p>At the request of Xianchun Xu, General Director of National Accounts for China's National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), Jiemin Guo of BEA's Industry Benchmark Division answered questions on November 21-22, 2005. The following topics were discussed: pricing, the use of economic census data for national accounts, and the process of incorporating revisions into national accounts estimates. It was also agreed that NBS would coordinate all visits of Chinese government statisticians to BEA.</p> <p>In addition, BEA provided some informal technical assistance on China's national accounts. In November Brian Moyer and Jiemin Guo visited China, and we have met with Chinese visitors to the United States.</p> | <p>Since 2004, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Division of International Technical Cooperation has been providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, on the implementation of a Producer Price Index (PPI) for India to replace the currently produced wholesale price index (WPI). The scope of the project has included general PPI concepts and methods; the development of stage of processing indexes; and the development of services indexes in the PPI. In 2004, a two-week training program was conducted for select staff of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in Washington, DC. This was followed by a two-week training program on the concepts and methods of the PPI for staff of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry held in New Delhi in 2005. A third phase included a three-week program of training and consulting on the development of services indexes was conducted in New Delhi in early 2006. The fourth, and final phase of this project, will include a one-week program in Washington, DC, on PPI compilation methods for two staff from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to be held in June 2006.</p> <p>The BLS Division of Foreign Labor Statistics funded a report on India's manufacturing earnings and compensation statistics. We expect to publish this work next year.</p> <p>Bureau of Census</p> <p>None</p> <p>National Agricultural Statistics Service</p> <p>none</p> | <p>The BLS Division of Foreign Labor Statistics funded a report on India's manufacturing earnings and compensation statistics. We expect to publish this work next year.</p> <p>Bureau of Census</p> <p>None</p> <p>National Agricultural Statistics Service</p> <p>none</p> |

| OECD Member Country | STES activities in China | STES activities in India |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| | <p>Bureau of Census</p> <p>We are working with China on a merchandise trade reconciliation for data years of 2000 and 2004 to jointly identify reasons and measurements for differences in the bilateral statistics. We recently travelled to China to discuss the Eastbound (China exports vs. U.S. Imports) analysis. In the coming months, we plan to continue our analysis to include the Westbound trade.</p> <p>National Agricultural Statistics Service</p> <p>Limited technical assistance on development of crop balance sheets and grain storage surveys.</p> | |
| European Commission's Eurostat | none | none |
| OECD | Technical co-operation in the development of national accounts | none |
| Brazil | none | none |