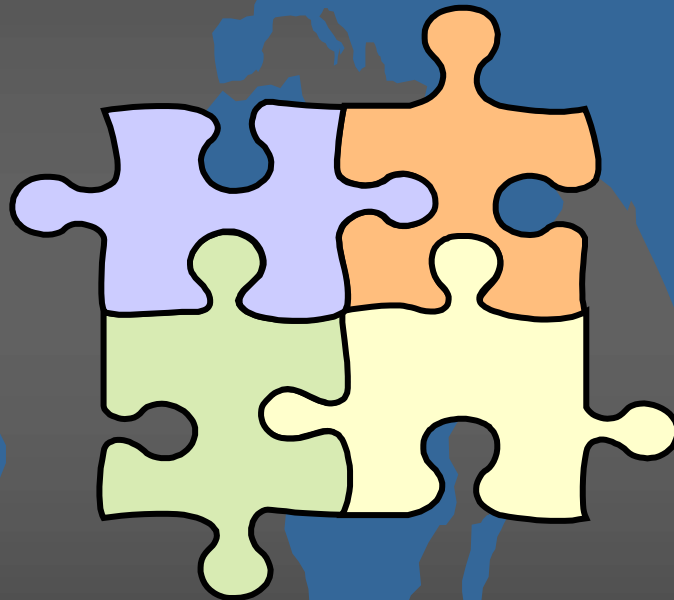


# The Short-term economic statistics: *STES Timeliness Framework* 2005 Update



Richard McKenzie OECD

# STES Timeliness Framework

- Developed by the STESEG taskforce on timeliness and benchmarking
- Aims to assist countries to improve the timeliness of the STES they produce (reduce costs & improve accuracy as well)
- A collection of good practices which cover all aspects of the statistical production process
- First version went live on the OECD website in September 2004
- STESEG has the role to improve, maintain, use and promote the framework

# Development of the STES timeliness framework - background

- Aim was for the framework to have a very practical focus
- Relevant documentation was collected from countries in a specific request
  - Requested existing documentation, 129 papers from 21 countries submitted: 46 papers from 18 countries used
- Relevant statistical journals, conferences and workshop proceedings were reviewed
  - 8 journals & 18 conferences reviewed, from which 36 papers from 12 different sources were chosen

# Using the framework

- Taskforce had many 'iterations' to design a structure as user friendly as possible
- Given the breadth of material and different country practices it contains, it should be widely applicable

[www.oecd.org/std/research/timeliness](http://www.oecd.org/std/research/timeliness)

# Promoting the *STES Timeliness Framework*

- Maximise visibility on the OECD website
- STESEG members promotion in their own organisations
- Distribution by other international organisations to their relevant working groups
- Articles in OECD and UNSD Statistics Newsletters

# Use of the STES Timeliness Framework

Visits to the STES Timeliness Framework homepage

Month	Rank	Views	Ave time
Aug 2004	132	211	2:57
<b>Sep 2004</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>862</b>	<b>2:19</b>
Oct 2004	73	363	3:29
Nov 2004	80	307	2:58
Dec 2004	83	257	4:03
Jan 2005	80	280	4:31
Feb 2005	47	381	2:37
Mar 2005	57	415	2:35

## 2005 update of the framework

- Email sent to each NSO that participated in 2004 STESEG to provide any new papers
- Identification of relevant conferences / workshops to review proceedings

# Requests to National Statistics Offices

- Responses from 20 of the 27 statistics organisations contacted.
- 33 Papers provided for assessment from 11 countries (Statistics Finland, Sweden & Italy still to follow up on)
- 13 of the 33 papers provided were deemed suitable for inclusion in the update
- 3 papers removed as no longer relevant or have been updated

# Conferences / workshops to review

- OECD/Eurostat workshop on benchmarking (April 2005)
- ISI (Sydney, April 2005)
- Work session on Statistical Data Editing (Ottawa, May 2005)
- UNECE conference, special topic on improved data reporting (June 2005)
- European conference on Quality and Methodology in Official Statistics (Mainz, May 2005)
- CCSA Data Quality Conference (Wiesbaden, May 2005)
- Others??

# Sections updated so far ....

- 1.1 Direct use of Administrative data in Short-term Statistics
- 4.2 Due date for businesses providing data
- 5.1 Efficient data collection methods using technology
- 5.2 Follow up of Non Respondents
- 5.3 Automated data validation (editing) methods
- 5.4 Selective (or significance) editing
- 5.6 Relationships with Respondents
- 6.1 Data Imputation Methods
- 7.4 Use of Benchmarking Techniques

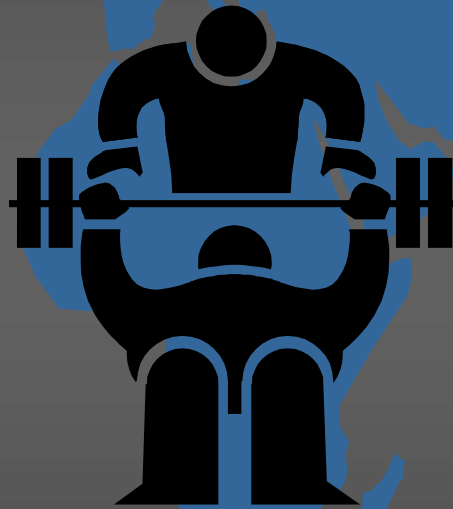
# Finalising 2005 update

- Aim to finish the update in August 2005
- Only seems feasible to update the framework once a year (unless papers contributed via the feedback mechanism)
- Plan to promote the update in the same way as the 2004 launch

# Issues for discussion

- Other conferences / workshops to review
- Experiences from NSOs in their promotion (and usage?) of the STES Timeliness Framework in their organisations
- Other suggestions for ongoing promotion
- Comments on the update process
  - Annual call to STESEG representatives and conference review
  - Is it worth it?

# Benchmarking for short-term economic statistics



June 27-28 2005

STESEG taskforce on timeliness and benchmarking

# Definition

- Benchmarking is the process of aligning estimates of an economic variable at high frequency (e.g. monthly / quarterly) with independent estimates of the same economic variable produced at low frequency (e.g. annual)
- Assumes the low frequency source is more accurate than the high frequency source

# Background

- Presentation on methods at 2002 STESEG
- Presentation on specific conditions for benchmarking STES at 2003 STESEG
- OECD / Eurostat workshop on benchmarking in November 2003
  - Collection of relevant technical documents brought together on OECD website – also part of the *STES Timeliness Framework*
- Availability of the ECOTRIM software

## Most recent initiatives

- Paper at 2004 STESEG discussing the costs and benefits of benchmarking for STES
  - Strong arguments supporting the benefits
  - Demonstration of the freely available ECOTRIM software
- April 2005 OECD / Eurostat workshop:  
“Frontiers in Benchmarking Techniques and Their Application to Official Statistics”

# OECD / Eurostat workshop on benchmarking

- Over 150 participants – including several members of STESEG, many giving papers
- Themes covered:
  - dynamic, state-space & other model based approaches
  - balancing techniques & back-recalculation of time series
  - comparisons of alternative methods of benchmarking and recent applications to official statistics
  - development of freely available tools and user friendly software for benchmarking and temporal disaggregation

# OECD / Eurostat workshop on benchmarking

- Comprehensive set of reference material
  - Including access to free software
- Opportunity for NSOs to review their current use of benchmarking techniques & identify improvements that could be made in aspects of their statistical programs (especially STES)
- [http://epp.eurostat.cec.eu.int/portal/page?\\_pageid=1853,19167133,1853\\_41880052&\\_dad=portal&\\_schema=PORTAL](http://epp.eurostat.cec.eu.int/portal/page?_pageid=1853,19167133,1853_41880052&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL)

# THE END



June 27-28 2005

STESSEG taskforce on timeliness and benchmarking