



Draft Agenda: OECD STESEG Meeting 10-11 September 2009

Thursday 10, September

10.00 – 10.20 Welcome and introduction

Marco Mira d'Ercole, Counsellor, Statistics Directorate, OECD

10.20 – 12.00 Session I

Short-term economic statistics and the current crisis

The International Perspective

Chair – Alfredo Leone, International Monetary Fund

Since the financial crisis first emerged there have been questions asked about how statistics can help or could have helped. A task-force, led by the IMF (Inter-Agency Group on Economic and Financial Statistics), has been established to improve the availability of timely and relevant financial and economic indicators. This group recently produced the following website: <http://principalglobalindicators.org> Proposals emerging from this task-force and other international initiatives will be discussed.

Background and introduction to topic

Alfredo Leone, International Monetary Fund

The current economic crisis: statistical initiatives of the E(S)CB

Daniela Schackis, ECB

**Macroeconomic statistics and the current crisis:
Challenges ahead and statistical initiatives at the IMF**

Alfredo Leone, International Monetary Fund

The OECD Perspective

David Brackfield, OECD

Discussion

12.00 – 14.00 Lunch

14.00 – 16.20 Session II

Short-term economic statistics and the current crisis

A National Statistics Office Perspective

Chair – Gian Paolo Oneto, ISTAT

A situation like the financial crisis raises questions for National Statistics Offices in the basic compilation and dissemination of short-term economic statistics. What should an NSO do in regards to seasonal adjustment outliers, enterprise deaths mid-sample, mergers, the entry of the government into the market etc? This session will discuss these issues and allow NSOs an opportunity to learn from each other

and if successful this could lead to a more consistent response to the challenges that the crisis has generated.

Background and introduction to topic

Gian Paolo Oneto, ISTAT

Statistical methods in a rapid recession

Derek Bird, United Kingdom Office for National Statistics (ONS)

Financial crisis policy responses in the US national accounts

Dennis Fixler, US Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

Measuring US Industrial Production during a downturn in economic activity

John J Stevens, US Federal Reserve Board

When it's not business as usual

Michael Smedes, Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

The Italian Housing Market in the Crisis: Fresh Evidence

Francesco Zollino, Bank of Italy

Discussion

16.20 – 16.40 Coffee Break

16.40 – 17.40 Session III

Implementation of new international classifications into short-term economic statistics

Chair – Brian Newson, Eurostat

The 2009 year has seen most of the international classification standards updated, for example ISIC rev 3.1 to rev 4 and NACE rev 1.1 to rev 2. The European Union has implemented a program of how the new standards will be introduced into short-term economic statistics. There are still a number of discussions (e.g. backcasting) that could take place about what impact these will have on the subject areas. In addition there is also scope for countries outside the EU to outline how and when they expect to make the change and their initial thinking.

Introduction

Brian Newson, Eurostat

Implementation of NACE rev.2 in short-term economic statistics: what did we do in practice?

Leendert Hoven, Statistics Netherlands

Calculation of STS-indicators in Industries and Construction according to NACE Rev. 2

Monika Brunauer, Statistics Austria

Discussion

17.40 – 19.00 OECD Cocktail, Salle Marshall

Friday 11, September

9.30 – 11.20 Session IV

The use of administrative data in improving short-term statistics estimates.

Chair – Søren Kristensen, Statistics Denmark

NSOs are always faced with the need to reduce respondent load while at the same time becoming more efficient. A clear way forward is the increased use of administrative data. While this is a subject that the group has been involved with in the past, there is more scope for countries to discuss new methods, with a possible focus in the area of short-term service statistics. There is also a possibility of re-establishing the taskforce to update and revamp the existing frameworks as a number of conferences/workshops have taken place in the last few years.

Opening Remarks

Søren Kristensen, Statistics Denmark

Use of administrative data in sub-annual statistics – how far can we go?

Kathy Connolly, Statistics New Zealand

“Why collect the same information twice?” Exploring the possibilities of using VAT data in the estimation of the Danish IIP

Søren Kristensen, Statistics Denmark

Use of administrative data in short-term statistics for the service sector

Daniel Lennartsson, Statistics Sweden

Credit-card purchases as a short-term indicator

Yoel Finkel, Central Bureau of Statistics Israel

Preparing for changes in administrative data for short-term statistics

Ville Koskinen, Statistics Finland

Discussion

11.20 – 11.40 Coffee Break

11.40 – 12.00 Session V

Development of short-term business demography statistics

Chair – Jiemin Guo, OECD

The OECD has recently developed a number of business demography indicators (such as entry, exit and survival rates) as part of its Entrepreneurship Indicators Programme. Most of these indicators are only available 2 to 3 years after the period to which they refer; making them less than ideal when it comes to assessing policies or events in real-time (like the current crisis). Timelier sources, namely Labour Force Surveys (LFS), are available that could provide more up-to-date indicators of business demography. See: [http://www.oilis.oecd.org/oilis/2008doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT0000334E/\\$FILE/JT03247674.PDF](http://www.oilis.oecd.org/oilis/2008doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT0000334E/$FILE/JT03247674.PDF)

Short-term indicators of business dynamics: entry, exit and survival rates

Koen de Backer, OECD

12.00 – 12.30 Session VI

National Presentations

Chair – David Brackfield, OECD

Benchmarking official data in Mexico

Adriana Jimenez-Pineda, INEGI Mexico

Construction of the index of industrial production in India

Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India

News vs. noise: revision analysis

Denis Fixler, Dennis Fixler, US Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

12.30 – 14.00 Lunch

14.00 –? Session VII

STESEG – Where to from here

Chair – David Brackfield, OECD

A summary of the meeting and a discussion on the future of the group with input from the delegates.