Other Activities

Greening growth

Objectives and outputs

The main research focus of the Green Growth work stream over the coming years is the impact of policies on joint economic and environmental performance of firms. This will require assembling firm-level and plant-level datasets on economic performance and polluting emissions. We are planning to assemble such datasets by combining different sources of data: (i) publicly available data on emissions at the plant level, i.e. using national Pollution Registries databases; (ii) confidential microdata on energy consumption at the plant level available from government statistical offices (such as INSEE in France or ONS in the UK); (iii) commercially available firm performance data from the ORBIS database; (iv) confidential firm-level data on economic outcomes from government statistical offices. An important challenge that we foresee is the harmonisation of business performance data across countries in order to conduct comparative or cross-country studies.

Other Activities

Implementation of the OECD Quality Framework

Purpose

To enhance the quality of OECD statistics, to provide a systematic mechanism for ongoing identification and resolution of quality problems, to increase the transparency of the processes used by the OECD to assure quality, to reinforce the political role of the OECD in the context of an information society.

Objectives and outputs

The framework focuses on improving the quality of data collected, compiled and disseminated by the OECD through an improvement of the Organisation's processes and management, though there will be a positive spill over effect on the quality of data compiled at national level. The framework is composed of four elements: a definition of quality and its dimensions; a procedure for assuring the quality of proposed new statistical activities; a procedure for evaluating the quality of existing statistical activities on a regular basis; and internal quality guidelines covering all phases of the statistical production process.

Main Developments for 2018

General aspects:

Implementation of the recommendations of the audit undertaken by the Internal Audit and Evaluation Directorate.

Implementation of the Recommendation of the OECD Council on Good Statistical Practice

Purpose

The Recommendation of the OECD Council on Good Statistical Practice was adopted by the Council in November 2015. In adopting the Recommendation, the Council requested the Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy to report on its implementation no later than three years after its adoption.

Objectives and outputs

The OECD Statistics Directorate assists countries in implementing the Recommendation and coordinates the preparation of relevant documentation and evaluation reports.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Colombia, Lithuania, Peru.

Main Developments for 2018

General aspects:

Country assessments of compliance with the Recommendation can take three alternative formats:
(i) a simple self-assessment by the country;
(ii) an evidence-based self-assessment where implementation of the draft Recommendation and good practices are substantiated through documentation and referencing; and (iii) a peer review by the CSSP with the help of STD.

An online toolkit is available at the following address http://www.oecd.org/statistics/good-practice-toolkit

This toolkit includes a self-assessment questionnaire and will integrate the results of the implementation process.

Other Activities

Insolvency Indicator

Purpose

The OECD insolvency indicator was originally constructed as part of an Economics Department project on Exit Policies and Productivity Growth. It is based on a questionnaire on insolvency regimes, circulated to 46 countries in April 2016. The choice of questions and the corresponding structure of the indicators are motivated in an associated working paper, Adalet-McGowan and Andrews (2016), which proposes a strategy to obtain policy indicators that capture cross-country differences in the key design features of corporate and personal insolvency regimes. These indicators have been used in the following analyses: Adalet-McGowan, Andrews and Millot (2017) and Andrews and Petroulakis (2017), which provide empirical evidence on the link between insolvency regimes and productivity growth.

Objectives and outputs

To disseminate this database to be used externally and internally, in ECO Country Surveys and Going for Growth.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

China, Costa Rica, Lithuania, Malaysia, Russian Federation.

LinkEED project

Purpose

Matched employer-employee data allow analysing the role of the firm in determining workers' wages, including movements along the wage ladder over the course of a career; the role of worker characteristics such as skills and gender for firm-level productivity; and the efficiency of labour reallocation across firms. The activity will thus contribute to a deeper understanding of the Productivity-Inequality Nexus.

Objectives and outputs

By taking the lead internationally on the analysis of matched employer-employee data, the OECD will strengthen and consolidate its position at the forefront of the academic and policy debate on inclusive growth. More specifically, the project will deepen the understanding of the role of automation and digitalisation, the expansion of global value chains as well as policies and institutions for cross-firm productivity divergence and its implications for wage inequality, with a particular focus on the wage outcomes and career opportunities of low-skilled workers and women. This will contribute to new policy insights and recommendations. Moreover, it will establish the organisation as a data hub for internationally comparable matched employer-employee data.

Main Developments for 2018

General aspects:

Take stock of the availability and comparability of matched employer-employee data in OECD countries.

A report on the impact of cross-firm productivity divergence on wage and inequality developments, with a special focus on new policy insights and recommendations that can support inclusive growth.

Other Activities

O.N.E Data - Going Smart Data Project

Purpose

The project aims at setting the ground for OECD to progressively mainstream smart data practices into the OECD regular data lifecycle. It leverages dozens of experimental projects carried out in all policy domains over the 2016-17 period, that illustrate the great potential of smart data, in order to develop new, more granular, more timely and relevant evidence to inform policy decisions (see the reference document reviewed by DSWG in Jan 2017: OECD Smart Data Framework).

Objectives and outputs

For precise project description see the O.N.E Data Going Smart Data project scoping paper.

Main Developments for 2018

General aspects:

Develop smart data practices leveraging the Smart Data Sandbox, as the reference data science platform for statisticians and analysts to easily experiment with data (exploring voluminous micro-data or satellite data, running complex regressions or machine learning algorithms…) in a flexible, scalable and multidisciplinary way: Delivered through co-funding and collaboration between EXD/DKI and substantive directorates. In 2018: 1) Set-up of the OECD Algorithm bank leveraging promising open source technologies; 2) Data science assistance to directorates: Build capacity across OECD data teams for using the Sandbox efficiently through assistance to algorithm optimisation (e.g. use of distributed computing, code refactoring) and migration to new coding open source technologies (R and Python) leveraging the Algorithm bank. This assistance, if organised globally and in a synchronised way, will enable an accelerated pace of adoption and benefits. 3) Sandbox consolidation: Acquire hardware required for archiving and optimise current infrastructure. The opening of the platform to external expert is postponed to 2019+, pending more resources. 4) Data science platform pilot in: following the outcome of the Data Services & Solutions CfT, acquire licenses required for and implement the data science platform pilot, and carry out a first set of experimentations. 5) Animation of smart data communities of practitioners: Organisation of events, sharing of good practices and experiences, through engagement with 5 communities of practice by end of 2018 involving OECD staff and external experts. 6) In parallel to these actions, based on the outcomes of the CfT, EXD/DKI will engage in 2018 with directorates, mobilising the newly built smart data ecosystem, in order to propose scopes of work leveraging smart data to potential funders, and raise VCs for the next biennium – and possibly fill the wide gap in investment in the area of smart data.

Other Activities

O.N.E Data Project

Purpose

Build practices and deliver solutions aiming at digitally transforming and fully integrating the full regular data lifecycle

The project is due to renew and incorporate progressively various legacy platforms (.Stat DPI/Browser, StatWorks, MetaStore, OECD.Graph, etc.) into one seamlessly integrated evidence management environment consisting of three modules (.Stat Core, .Stat DE – Data Explorer, .Stat DLM – Data Lifecycle Manager)

Objectives and outputs

For precise project description see the O.N.E Data project scoping paper.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Tunisia.

Main Developments for 2018

General aspects:

Semester 1:
.Stat DLM, DE: Referential metadata (sis-cc)
.Stat DLM: Structural metadata (sis-cc)
.Stat DLM: SDMX capture
.Stat DLM: Programmable web charts
Semester 2:
.Stat DLM: MetaStore migration.
.Stat DLM: High-performance computing reusable modules
.Stat DLM: Generic and publication workflow
.Stat DLM: Web charts in Excel 365

Note: any .Stat DLM and DE feature usually requires evolution of .Stat Core which are implicitly included.

OECD Global Relations

Purpose

1. Coordinate reviews of the statistical system and statistics of accession countries in order to assist Council in taking an informed decision on whether to invite these countries to accede to the OECD Convention and become a Member. Consolidate information on the legal and Institutional framework for statistics, collect and review data and metadata in order to support the examination of economic and other policies by the OECD Committees.

2. Improve and expand the statistical co-operation with the five Key Partner (KP) countries (Brazil, India, Indonesia, China and South Africa). Conduct light assessment reviews of data and metadata based on a standard set of basic OECD statistical requirements and encourage and assist KP countries to bring their statistics in line with coverage, quality and comparability of OECD member statistics. Coordinate data and metadata collection for KP countries with other OECD Directorates.

3. Coordinate the development of statistics for other Partner countries or other non-members of relevance for the organisation.

Objectives and outputs

This activity is to support the Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy in its evaluation of the statistical system and statistics of accession countries selected for possible membership in the OECD. To help integrate data for the candidate countries and enhanced engagement countries in the Organisation's reporting and information systems.

The Global Relations Activity will also facilitate exchanges with the "Key Partner" (KP) countries in order to improve our understanding of their statistical legal and institutional framework for statistics and their statistical programmes, develop specific statistical relationships with each of the KP countries, and co-ordinate the development of working level statistical projects involving KP countries and OECD Members.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Brazil, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, G20, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Peru, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Ukraine.

Main Developments for 2018

General aspects:

Co-ordination of the development of statistics for all Partners countries or regions (eg LAC, MENA...), continue to promote enhanced statistical co-operation with Key Partners, accession countries, pre-accession countries, Country Programs, and with Argentina and Saudi Arabia as members of the G20.

Registered Design statistics

Purpose

To build an international infrastructure for data on registered design rights, in complement to the collection of data on patents and trademarks, covering data collection and methodological developments.

Objectives and outputs

Update the microdata records on design rights registered at the European Union's Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), at the Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO), IP Australia and the Japan Patent Office (JPO).

Compile statistics based on design, according to various levels of disaggregation.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Asia, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Belarus, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Europe, G20, Georgia, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Other, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovenia Former, South Africa, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, World.

Main Developments for 2018

General aspects:

Develop new experimental measures on design rights, and methodologies.

A matching exercise is undertaken to link design rights to firm level data (e.g. headquarters and subsidiaries of the top 2000 R&D performers jointly with the JRC-IPTS of the EC).

Other Activities

Statistical capacity building in support of the new SME flagship publication

Purpose

Benchmarking SME performance and policies requires mobilising a wealth of indicators across a broad range of domains of expertise. As data may come from various sources, different systems, be available in different formats and structured in different ways, data concentration may help reduce costs and risks related to data collection, harmonisation and normalisation. Data concentration could also help create synergies across CFE projects and improve data use for analytical purposes.

Objectives and outputs

Support the production of the new SME flagship publication (planned end 2018).

Main Developments for 2018

General aspects:

Design and implementation of the core data infrastructure.

Statistical Data & Metadata Exchange (SDMX)

Purpose

SDMX is an international standard for statistical data and metadata exchange and has been established by a consortium including the OECD and a number of other International Organisations (BIS, ECB, Eurostat, IMF, UNSD and the World Bank). The OECD is a member of the SDMX sponsor group and encourages the overall goals of SDMX to facilitate data exchange between organisations and reduce the burden for both data providers (National Statistical Agencies) and data collectors (International Organisations).

Objectives and outputs

Promotion of SDMX as a data exchange standard within STD and other OECD directorates and various statistical counterparties.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

China, Colombia, India, Russian Federation.

Main Developments for 2018

General aspects:

Increase the number of countries engaged in SDMX and transfer an increasing volume of data via SDMX with national and international data partners.

Take part in the work of the SDMX working groups and governance bodies.

Project manage the initiative to construct global SDMX artefacts for Labour statistics and participate in a similar initiative for Price Statistics.

Lead SMDX efforts in three points of the 2020 SDMX Roadmap (1.1, 1.2, 4.2), that is encouraging and monitoring global implementation progress, facilitate the creation of global SDMX artefacts and review the structure of global SDMX conferences (organize and host the 2018 SDMX experts meeting).

STI Microdata lab

Purpose

The STI Micro-data Lab is a data infrastructure project within STI Directorate, collects and links large-scale administrative and commercial micro-level datasets. These mainly relate to administrative data such as intellectual property (IP) assets, including patents, trademarks and registered designs; scientific publications; and information on companies from private providers. IP data are collected in the framework of the OECD-led IP Statistics Task Force, which gathers representatives from IP offices worldwide.

These micro-data, which complement and enhance official statistics like macro-aggregated or survey-based data, have the advantage of being granular in nature and comprehensive in time and geographical coverage.

By providing detailed information about the behaviour of economic agents and the way science and technology develop, these data help address policy-relevant questions, such as those related to the generation and diffusion of new technologies, the different ways in which firms innovate, science-industry links, researchers' mobility patterns or the role of knowledge-based assets in firms' economic performance.

Objectives and outputs

The STI Micro-data Lab serves as a platform for the development of new metrics and methodologies, and feeds into a large range of analyses. Experimental indicators built using this infrastructure are regularly published by the OECD, notably in the OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard. Details about the location of authors, inventor and designers or about applicants' names and addresses shed light on scientific, inventive, branding and design activities occurring in different countries, and on how different actors interact. The technology, design and product domains that IP rights protect can be inferred from the technology or product classification codes provided in IP documents.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Asia, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Belarus, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Europe, G20, Georgia, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Other, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovenia Former, South Africa, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, World.

Main Developments for 2018

General aspects:

The different micro datasets of the STI Microdata Lab are being used in an independent fashion, e.g. to develop indicators related to specific analytical questions, or combined in such a way as to generate new information related to a broader array of issues or to more complex dynamics.

As IP data do not contain firm identification codes, IP rights are assigned to firms using harmonization and linking techniques to connect firms' and IP assignees' names using word-matching algorithms.

To improve the granularity of analysis, addresses are linked to about 5 500 intra-country regions in more than 40 countries.

Experimental data mining techniques have been developed to exploit information from IP and bibliographic data and identify accelerations in science and technology-related activities ("bursts").

The Structural Policy Indicators Database for Economic Research (SPIDER)

Purpose

The primary objective of such a database is to provide an easy starting point for future empirical/econometric work on the nature or impacts of structural policies.

Objectives and outputs

The Structural Policy Indicators Database for Economic Research (SPIDER) gathers together data from various sources which go beyond the traditional macroeconomic indicators.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Asia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Europe, G20, Georgia, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Other, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovenia Former, South Africa, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela.