



UNITED NATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION

**Expert Group on Energy Statistics
Second meeting
New York, 2-5 November 2010**

Implementation of IRES

UNSD report

**New York
October 2010**

Implementation of IRES

With the finalization of the *International Recommendations for Energy Statistics* (IRES) and the adoption of IRES by the UN Statistical Commission, countries will be encouraged to implement the recommendations based on their national circumstances and priorities and UNSD will develop an implementation plan to assist countries in the implementation. This document presents an outline of the main elements of the implementation strategy that UNSD intends to establish for IRES. The Expert Group on Energy Statistics is invited to discuss this strategy. Based on the input of the Expert Group an action plan for the implementation of IRES will be developed by UNSD.

In general, the overall implementation of IRES will be carried out in coordination and cooperation with the UN regional Commissions as well as other relevant international and regional organizations. The main elements of an implementation plan for IRES include: the preparation of the Energy Statistics Compilers Manual (ESCM); the development of a technical assistance programme; the revision of the UNSD annual questionnaire on energy statistics; the development training materials; and the further enhancement in the United Nations Energy Statistics Database and improvement in its dissemination.

Preparation of the Energy Statistics Compilers Manual (ESCM)

A key element of the implementation of IRES is the preparation of the Energy Statistics Compilers Manual (ESCM). It is expected that the ESCM will contain further and more detailed explanation of the recommendations and provide practical guidance for compilers by describing good/best practices applicable under different circumstances.

The ESCM is planned to be finalized in 2012. It is envisaged that the ESCM will be periodically reviewed and updated to reflect the new methodological developments and keep the compilers abreast with the country practices. As part of the preparation of the ESCM country practices will be collected and made available through a knowledge base platform. This platform will be in addition to the existing functions of the UNSD website.

Development of a technical assistance programme

UNSD plans to develop a technical assistance programme to countries, in cooperation and coordination with UN regional Commissions and international and regional organizations. It will mainly consist of regional workshops that will focus on the contents of the new recommendation and the practical issues of their implementation. It is envisaged that the technical assistance programme will cover all stages of the statistical process from the institutional arrangements, data collection and data processing to data dissemination. Guidance on the compilation of the energy balances and the energy accounts of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounts for Energy is expected to be an integral part of the technical assistance programme.

While UNSD's activities are essentially restricted to the international and regional level, the Expert Group is invited to discuss options for direct country assistance, including bilateral exchanges.

Revision of the UNSD Annual Questionnaire on energy statistics

Revisions to the UNSD annual questionnaire on energy statistics are expected to reflect the updated recommendations covered in IRES. In addition, UNSD is working toward the development of a joint questionnaire with IEA and other relevant organizations in order to reduce response burden and facilitate data exchange.

Development of training material

As part of the implementation strategy the preparation of standard training modules for workshops and on-line materials is envisaged to assist countries in the compilation of the questionnaires, energy balances and energy accounts. Members of the Expert Group are invited to contribute to the development of such modules.

Further enhancements in the United Nations Energy Statistics Database and improvements in its dissemination

As part of its regular data collection UNSD will request and advocate the provision of data according to the new recommendations and will put increased emphasis on obtaining metadata. In addition, a careful review of the UN energy statistics database will take place in order to incorporate elements of the recommendations on dissemination contained in IRES.