

OF THE INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON STATISTICS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SERVICES

N°7 - December 2011



IN THIS ISSUE

Focus	
<i>The Global Forum on Trade Statistics</i>	1
Technical cooperation and seminars	
<i>Harmonizing trade in services data across International Organizations databases.</i>	5
Publications and databases	
<i>UNSD database on Statistics of International Trade in Services</i>	6
<i>Eurostat Statistics on International Trade in Services</i>	6
<i>OECD Statistics on International Trade in Services</i>	7
<i>WTO International Trade Statistics</i>	7
Past events	
<i>33rd Meeting of the Interagency Task Force on SITS (TFSITS)</i>	9
<i>4th Meeting of the Working party on International Trade in Goods and Trade in Services Statistics</i>	9
<i>32nd Meeting of the Interagency Task Force on Statistics on International Trade in Services Statistics</i>	10

FOCUS

The Global Forum on Trade Statistics

Dear Reader,

The Global Forum on Trade Statistics was organized jointly by UNSD and Eurostat, in collaboration with WTO and UNCTAD, and took place from 2 to 4 February 2011 at the WTO in Geneva, Switzerland. It brought together close to 200 participants, including policy makers, economists, trade analysts and many statisticians. The Forum identified policy needs, especially the need for more detailed data on trade in services, described research issues in the area of

global value chains and trade in value-added, and offered solutions in better linking trade and global business statistics.

Heads of offices from WTO and the United Nations, as well as leaders in trade analysis, research and statistics gave their views on the most prominent and urgent trade issues and their corresponding data needs. From the policy perspective, it was stated that traditional boundaries of countries are

(Continued on page 2)

EBOPS 2010 – CPC 2.0 correspondence table is now available

The first draft version of the correspondence table between the new Extended Balance of Payments Services Classification (EBOPS 2010) and the Central Product Classification (CPC 2.0) has been produced by the Interagency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services and is available on its website at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/TFSITS/msits2010/annexes.htm>.

The table makes it explicit which detailed service products of the CPC are allocated to which category of the EBOPS 2010. The construction of the table is based on the detailed description of EBOPS services categories provided in the revised *Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services (MSITS 2010)* and the *Sixth Edition of the IMF's Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM6)*, and the explanatory notes describing the services contained in each of the CPC product codes (see <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/cr/registry/cpc-2.asp>).

The guiding principle was to assign CPC product codes to only one EBOPS category.

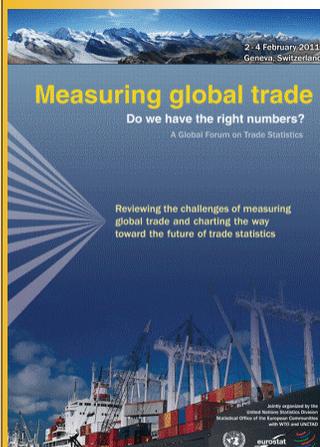
This would enable data compilers to make easy decisions when working from a CPC-based data collection to an EBOPS-based presentation of data. In a few cases however, such clear distinctions could not be made and one CPC product code had to be assigned to two or more EBOPS categories. Annotations on such cases are provided in the table.

The *EBOPS 2010 – CPC correspondence table* is one of the three online annexes of the MSITS 2010. The other annexes will relate the EBOPS 2010 respectively to the Services Sectoral Classification List (MTN.GNS/W/120) and the ISIC, Rev.4 Categories for Foreign Affiliates in services (ICFA, Rev.1). They will be posted online as soon as they become available.

[Full table >>](#)

EBOPS 2010		CPC 2.0	
code	Description	Code	Description
1	Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others	88	Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others
		892	Moulding, pressing, stamping, extruding and similar plastic manufacturing services
		893	Casting, forging, stamping and similar metal manufacturing services
		854	Packaging services

[back to top...](#)



http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/s_geneva2011/geneva2011.htm

GATS MODES OF SUPPLY:

- CROSS-BORDER TRADE;
- CONSUMPTION ABROAD;
- COMMERCIAL PRESENCE;
- PRESENCE OF NATURAL PERSONS.

For more, visit the WTO website at:
http://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/26-gats_01_e.htm

(Continued from page 1)

disappearing because of the inter-connectivity of the global production processes, that the concept of country of origin has become questionable in terms of value-added of trade, and the distinction between goods and services is blurred. The main challenge is to measure the fragmentation of the global production processes including all produced services, which should cover also the impact of trade on employment.

Policy makers also pointed out that trade patterns have moved from country specialization in types of goods to intra-firm or network specialization in tasks, with the South greatly expanding production of manufactures. Furthermore, the changing patterns of trade and production have important implications for trade and industrial policies in the broader context of development strategies. Policy makers also considered current statistical data to be deficient for international trade in services from the point of view of both analysis of such trade and use by negotiators.

From within the statistical community it was brought up that a better balance should be achieved between the very detailed and well developed customs-based merchandise trade data compared to the highly aggregated and less developed trade in services data. The challenge is to find a better way of collecting trade in services data. Further, a shift in paradigm is needed not only to observe the

economic activity from the perspective of the national territory, but also from an international perspective. For such a purpose there is a need to link international trade with other economic statistics, and with social, environment or energy statistics. In a similar sense it was stated that the development of an integrated data warehouse linking trade with other economic statistics is the right way forward, that national authorities should strive to legalize institutional arrangements on cooperation in trade statistics and that the measurement of quantities, prices and volumes should be improved.

The Global Forum concluded with a vision statement containing three main points:

Vision of the future of international trade statistics

Improve the relevance of international trade statistics by connecting trade information and integrating it with its economic, social, environmental and financial dimensions while minimizing the response burden;

Improve the statistical production process by better defining and organizing the co-operation among national stakeholders;

Improve international classifications and correspondence tables relevant for research on international trade and globalization, such as research on trade in value added, on global value chains and on outsourcing of business functions.

Modes of supply: recent analysis and a way forward

Data according to the four modes of supply as specified in the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) have been requested by negotiators and analysts for many years. Although there has been a great improvement in the availability of statistics on resident/non-resident services transactions and an increasing number of countries compiling statistics on foreign affiliates activities, the statistical community is still failing to respond to needs for information by mode of supply.

Statistical data by mode of supply (developed either through collection mechanisms or rough estimations) would greatly help negotiators evaluate and compare the degree of liberalisation achieved and commitments in

specific service sectors as well provide information about market access. Such data would also help respond to the information requests arising from the economic and political need to evaluate the specific importance of each type of service traded, and understand how services are provided in respective economies.

A recent document prepared by Eurostat, OECD and WTO outlines this information gap. Compiling such data could actually be achieved without necessarily a big increase in the burden for respondents or compilers. The document concentrates on the aspect of the value of services supplied internationally and

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

evaluates to what extent existing statistics (BOP-services and foreign affiliates statistics) can match this information need. It also identifies what would need to be developed in data collection systems to identify and/or capture more accurately the requested information. The paper illustrates how some compilers have implemented data collection on modes in practice, either by conducting new surveys or upgrading existing ones. A way forward to begin estimating or gathering information on the value of the international supply of services is suggested by exploring

possibilities of generating or integrating information from other statistical domains e.g. tourism and migration statistics and a better use of administrative data. It proposes to compilers a number of different approaches, taking into account the suitability for their economies and considering differences in data collection methods and compilation systems. This could be done in the form of pilot/case studies, where the authors of the paper could collaborate with compilers.

For more information see STD/TBS/WPTGS (2011) 28 at www.oecd.org/std/its/wptgs.

Towards an international classification of business functions

The international outsourcing of business functions is one of the aspects of globalization related to the operating practices of enterprises. In search of efficiency gains and cost-cutting measures, companies are increasingly outsourcing business functions that were performed in-house to either other domestic enterprises or to enterprises located abroad. This typically results in jobs being moved, thus affecting employment and economic activity.

A 2008 study by a number of European countries led by Statistics Denmark attempted to measure the extent of international outsourcing of business functions. An important feature of the study was the breakdown of these business functions into core and support functions (see definitions in Box 1.). The results of this study were quite revealing, indicating among others that core functions were outsourced more than support functions. A follow-up study with broader participation of countries is planned for 2012. Because of the employment implications there is a lot of interest in the outcome of these studies.

In order to be able to internationally replicate and compare the results of such studies, there is

a need to develop a standardized classification of business functions. Such classification would go beyond the traditional product or activity breakdown (CPC or ISIC) and provide categories that are more relevant for the way in which companies structure their operations. Such classification would be key in measuring Global Value Chains (GVCs) as well as relating business functions to international trade flows.

Building on this initiative, UNSD took the lead in 2011 to push for an International Classification of Business Functions. A draft classification with correspondence to CPC products (see [table 1](#) on next page) was prepared and submitted to the attention of the Expert Group on International Economic and Social Classifications at its meeting in New York from 18 to 20 May 2011. The Expert Group agreed that guidance for the identification of core and support business functions should be developed, and mandated a Technical Subgroup (TSG) to develop a new proposal by March 2012. The status of the proposed classification is still under discussion. It could be seen as an alternative grouping of standard CPC categories, or it could become a classification on its own.

The proposed classification of **Business Functions** and its CPC correspondence is available on the [NEXT PAGE](#)

Box 1. Project Definitions of Core and Support Functions

Core business functions: They refer to the production of final goods or services intended for the market or third parties carried out by the enterprise and yielding income. The core business function equals in most cases the primary activity of the enterprise. It may also include other (secondary) activities if the enterprise considers these to comprise part of their core functions.

Support business functions: Also called ancillary activities, they are carried out in order to permit or facilitate production of goods or services intended for the market or third parties by the enterprise. The outputs of the support business functions are not themselves intended directly for the market or third parties.

Table 1: Proposed Classification of Business Functions and its CPC correspondence

Business Functions	Central Product Classification	
	Code	Description
1. Core business function		
	88	Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others
	854	Packaging services
	87	Maintenance, repair and installation (except construction) services
	89	Other manufacturing services; publishing, printing and reproduction services; materials recovery services
2. Support business functions		
2.1 Distribution and logistics		
	61	Wholesale trade services
	62	Retail trade services
	65	Freight transport services
	671	Cargo handling services
	672	Storage and warehousing services
	6791	Freight transport agency services and other freight transport services
	68	Postal and courier services
2.2 Marketing, sales and after sales services including help desks and call centers		
	83114	Marketing management consulting services
	836	Advertising services and provision of advertising space or time
	837	Market research and public opinion polling services
	83812	Advertising and related photography services
	85931	Telephone call centre services
	85962	Trade show assistance and organization services
2.3 ICT services		
	8313	Information technology (IT) consulting and support services
	8314	Information technology (IT) design and development services
	8315	Hosting and information technology (IT) infrastructure provisioning services
	8316	IT infrastructure and network management services
	841	Telephony and other telecommunications services
	842	Internet telecommunications services
2.4 Administrative and management functions		
	82	Legal and accounting services
	8311	Management consulting and management services (excl 83114)
	8312	Business consulting services
	8319	Other management services, except construction project management services
	8592	Collection agency services
	8594	Combined office administrative services
	8595	Specialized office support services
2.5 Engineering and related technical services		
	833	Engineering services
	8391	Specialty design services
2.6 Research & Development		
	81	Research and development services
Recently proposed additions:		
2.7 Procurement		
2.8 Finance and accounting		
2.9 Facility management		
2.10 Other types of functions		

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND SEMINARS

On 10 November 2011 the Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services decided to enhance its coordination of statistical capacity building activities. This was decided as a response to the recognition by the United Nations Statistical Commission 2010 of the importance of training in trade in service statistics, as well as the December 2005 WTO Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration, Annex C stating that targeted technical assistance should be provided on compiling and analyzing statistical data on trade in services.

The WTO Economic Research and Statistics Division was asked by the Task Force to take the lead in this coordination effort. This will be achieved by:

- collecting information on past and future technical assistance activities (of international organisations and national offices/aid agencies);
- gathering and maintaining information on active and potential consultants in this field;
- reviewing existing training tools and investigating the possibilities for improving or developing new training and capacity development tools (such as e-learning);
- maintaining a catalogue of proposals for capacity development in trade in services statistics with the purpose of streamlining activities and improving transparency of such proposals for potential users; and
- regularly updating the Task Force on the achievements and results of technical assistance activities and publish relevant information on the Task Force's webpage (hosted and maintained by UNSD).

Organiser(s)	Participating agencies	Location (date)	Title of event	Countries and economies targeted	Focus on compilation
WTO	WTO	Geneva	Regular participation in WTO Trade Policy Courses , Trade in Services Statistics	Selection of WTO members and observers	
ESCWA, World Bank, WTO, GCC, League of Arab States	ESCWA, Eurostat, WTO	Muscat, Oman (January 2011)	Regional workshop on International Trade in Services Statistics (Arab countries)	Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, KSA, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, UAE, Yemen	X
Commonwealth, COMESA, Mauritius (RMCE), WTO	COMESA, WTO, IMF, UNWTO	Balaclava, Mauritius (January 2011)	COMESA/Commonwealth Secretariat Workshop on Statistics of International Trade in Services	Burundi, Comoros, D.R Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Kenya, Lybia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe	X
AANZFTA	ASEAN, WTO, Australia (ABS), New Zealand (Statistics NZ), UNESCAP	Bangkok, Thailand (March 2011)	AANZFTA Capacity Building Workshop on International Trade in Services Statistics Collection & Management	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao., Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam	X
IMF, India (RBI)	IMF, WTO	Pune, India (September 2011)	Course on international trade in services statistics (ITS)	Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Eritrea, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda	X
Eurostat		Reykjavik, Iceland (22-23 September 2011)	Second meeting of the Travel Workshop relating to International Trade in Services Statistics	EU member countries, EFTA, Japan, Turkey	
UNSD, China (NBS)	UNSD	Beijing, China (October 2011)	Regional seminar on international trade statistics (goods and services)	Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Hong-Kong, Macao, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea Republic of, Laos, Maldives, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam	X
ICON Institute	Eurostat	Luxembourg, Luxembourg (28 November – 2 December 2011)	First Workshop on BoP and ITS and a Second Workshop on FDI and FATS	Countries and economies target: Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, Kosovo, Montenegro - Participating: Turkey and Croatia	
Eastern African Community, Germany (GLZ)	WTO	Arusha, Tanzania (November 2011)	Trade in services regional expert meeting	Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda	

PUBLICATIONS AND DATABASES

Harmonizing trade in services data across International Organizations databases

Since its [7th October 2010 meeting in Paris](#), the Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services has conducted a project on comparing international trade in services data across international databases following a common taxonomy. In the comparison some large differences were highlighted and it was realized that closer cooperation is needed among the international organizations to explain and reduce the differences.

At its [March 2011 meeting in Luxembourg](#), the Task Force asked WTO and OECD to take the lead in proposing some way forward to analyse the discrepancies. A report was presented at the November 2011 Task Force meeting describing the data collection systems (either primary or secondary) at the relevant international organizations and the actions taken to address the issues related to the situation when international trade in services data was collected by more than one international organization.

The suggested actions include the regular update of a table called “the [Matrix](#)” maintained by UNSD which summarizes the status of the data collection performed by the

relevant international organizations and displays links to databases, update timetables, availability of metadata, etc. The report gives examples of how increased cooperation and coordination of data collection and publication among international data collectors could be improved and proposes that all international databases refer to the “Matrix” table (see [page 8](#) of this Newsletter) so that users are informed about the differences between the data sources.

Furthermore, it is proposed to continue the comparison exercise. The report outlines the benefits of better cooperation and sharing of work in data collection, metadata and methodology. Finally, the streamlining of data collection among international organization will reduce the reporting burden on countries. Streamlining could be achieved if countries submit their data files (and metadata) to a central repository using SDMX if possible. Access to this central repository would be made available to all relevant international/supranational organizations. The Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services will coordinate these efforts.

THE TASK FORCE
HAS CONDUCTED
A PROJECT ON
COMPARING
INTERNATIONAL
TRADE IN
SERVICES DATA
ACROSS
INTERNATIONAL
DATABASES

UNSD database on Statistics of International Trade in Services

UN ServiceTrade

A global database on International Trade in Services, is publicly and freely available at the UNSD website at the following address: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/servicetrade/default.aspx>. The scope of UN ServiceTrade is resident to non-resident trade in services and some related data series, broken down by EBOPS category and partner country, starting with the year 2000 provided on an annual basis. The main sources of data and metadata are national statistical offices, central banks, Eurostat and IMF. All values are expressed in US dollars. Services are classified according to EBOPS and its memorandum items and some additional BOP components and direct investment.

UN International Trade Statistics Knowledgebase

UNSD has developed a knowledge base on the statistics of international trade in services to assist users. The knowledge base complements the one on trade in goods and aims at providing users a single portal where they can access information related to concepts and definitions used in compiling trade statistics and search the base if they have specific questions. The knowledge base is therefore updated regularly with questions received from users and relevant methodological documentation published by countries or international organizations. Both knowledge bases are accessible at: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradekb/Knowledgebase/>.

EUROSTAT:
[Balance of payments](#)
 - [International transactions](#)

IMF:
[Balance of Payments Statistics](#)

OECD:
 Trade in services by:
[EBOPS 2002](#)
[EBOPS 2010](#)

Trade in services by partner:
[EBOPS 2002](#)
[EBOPS 2010](#)

UN:
[UN ServiceTrade](#)

WTO:
<http://stat.wto.org>

AN overview of these databases is also available at:
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/TFSITS/matrix.htm>

Eurostat Statistics on International Trade in Services

Extremely detailed data on International Trade in Services are publicly and freely available from Eurostat website at the following address: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/balance_of_payments/data/database.

Not only for all the EU27 Member States, but also for Croatia, Turkey, Iceland, Norway, the United States and Japan, the on-line Eurostat database contains annual data on ITS broken

down by EBOPS category and partner country, starting, for some countries from year 1985.

The main sources of data are central banks and the national statistical offices. All values are expressed in million of Euro. Quarterly data for 11 main types of service and a reduced geographical breakdown are also available from Eurostat public database, as part of the tables related to quarterly balance of payments data.

OECD Statistics on International Trade in Services

International trade in services data are published by OECD in two datasets: *Trade in services by service category* (TIS dataset) and *Trade in service by partner country* (TISP dataset).

The dataset *Trade in services by service category* seeks to provide balance of payments data by type of service (EBOPS 2002 classification) at the most detailed level for the 34 OECD member countries, plus the Russian Federation, Brazil, India, Indonesia, China and South Africa. Published data go back to 1970, and historic series are available to the extent that countries can report them. All values are expressed both in million of US dollars and in national currency, and are provided on an annual basis. An extract of the TIS dataset is freely available at: <http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?datasetcode=TIS>

Australian trade in services data by category of services are available according to the EBOPS 2010 classification and are published in the following dataset: http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?datasetcode=TIS_EBOPS2010.

The dataset *Trade in service by partner country* provides statistical information on international trade in services broken down by partner country to the extent that countries can report them. Published data start in 1999, and relate to 33 OECD member countries (Switzerland will provide bilateral data soon), plus the Russian Federation and Hong Kong (S.A.R. China). All values are expressed in million of US dollars and are provided on an annual basis. An extract of the TISP dataset is freely available at: <http://stats.oecd.org/wbos/default.aspx?datasetcode=TISP>

Australian trade in services data by partner country are available according to the EBOPS 2010 classification and are published in the following dataset: http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?datasetcode=TISP_EBOPS2010

Each dataset is followed by the correspondent metadata. The main sources of data and metadata for both TIS and TISP datasets are Eurostat, national statistical offices, central banks, and IMF.

WTO International Trade Statistics

In addition to merchandise trade data, the International Trade Statistics report provides comprehensive, comparable and up-to-date statistics on trade in commercial services (i.e. excluding government services n.i.e.) between residents and non-residents for an assessment of world trade flows by country, region and main services category.

Major trade developments are summarized in the highlights of each chapter of the report. Total commercial services trade time series for the last decade broken down by reporter are provided in the Appendix. The publication also presents

available data on sales of services by foreign affiliates which is useful to estimate the supply of services through mode 3. The accompanying database is updated twice a year and contains time series from 1980 for total commercial services, transportation, travel and other commercial services, as well as the breakdown of the latter item into 11 items (from 2000).

In October 2011 WTO began publishing short-term trade in services statistics for available economies (approximately 120 for quarterly data and 30 for monthly), as well as estimated

(Continued on page 9)

Overview of existing databases covering SITS at different international organizations

					
Mandate	Regulation(EC) No 184/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council	Article VIII of the IMF's Articles of Agreement	OECD Working party on International Statistical Commission Trade in goods and services statistics session (2001) (WPTGSO mandate for TIS and TISP annual data collection)	Statistical Commission at its 23rd Session (2001)	GATS, RTA transparency mechanism require monitoring and surveillance of trade flow for assessing trade liberalization
Geographical coverage	Europe, EEA members (30)+ Croatia, turkey, Norway, Switzerland, Iceland, Japan, USA	All economies. Regional and world aggregates.	TIS: 30 Member countries (MCs), Chile, Israel, BRIICS TISP: MCs, Russia, Hong Kong SAR of China, Israel, Switzerland, Iceland	Member(180 of 192) + some 15 territories	Annual data: All economies: Regional and world aggregates are produced including estimations for missing reporter data; Quarterly data: approximately 110-120 economies; Monthly data: approximately 30 economies.
Format	Standard questionnaire via GESMES format (full SDMX compatible)	Integrated Correspondence System (ICS) Standard Excel questionnaire	EU-OECD countries: electronic download from EUROSTAT website, Non EU-OECD countries: Standard Excel questionnaire	File exported from National Statistical Offices (NSO) or Central Banks (CB) database in delimited text file or Standard Excel questionnaire	any input format accepted
Source	Data collection	Data collection	EU-OECD countries (excl. Germany for TISP): EUROSTAT Non EU-OECD countries (incl. Russia for TIS and TISP, Hong Kong SAR and Ger-many for TISP) : Data collection (CBs or NSOs) BRIICS for TIS, (exc Russia), IMF	Data collection (NSO, CB) + electronic data transfer from Eurostat + IMF monthly BOPS database	IMF monthly BOPS database + Eurostat, OECD, UNSD, websites of NSO, CB + WTO estimations
Time period	Annual: 1985-latest Quarterly: from 1994	1948 to latest year	TIS: from 1970 – latest year TISP: from 1999 – latest year	2000- latest year	Annual data: 1980– latest year; Short-term data: 2006-latest period.
Service classification	EBOPS 2002	BPM5	EBOPS 2002 in general, EBOPS 2010 for some countries	EBOPS 2002	Commercial services (excl. government services n.i.e.); Transportation, Travel, Other commercial services and breakdown into 11 items.
Breakdown by products (CPC)	No	No	Ongoing research project on trade by products and industries	No, but experimental CPC module is planned	No
Number of countries with partner data	32 Countries(27 MCs, Croatia, Turkey, Norway, Switzerland and Japan)	No	30 countries (28 of the 30 MCs, Hong Kong SAR of China and Russia	46 countries	Selected economies
Availability of metadata	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, in development	Yes
Collection cycle	Annual: Sep,a-1 Quarterly: M-3	Continually	Download from EUROSTAT: Dec, t-1 Standard Excel questionnaire: -TIS: Jan, t-2 -TISP : Feb t-2 IMF : Dec, t-1	July, t-1	Annual data: general program following publication calendar: twice a year (March and June/July t-1) for main aggregates and only June/July (t-1) for more detailed information. Short-term data (quarterly and monthly): on a rolling basis (as data become available from relevant sources).
Publication cycle	May, t-1 (prelim) Annual: November, t-1 Quarterly: t+100 days	Monthly	Rolling update on OECD,Stat Paper, publications & CD-ROM:TIS: Apr,t-2, Dec, t-2	Continuous –Target deadline for data February, t-2	Annual data: March, t-1 October, t-1, Quarterly data (t+90 days)
Format of Publication	Internet database download	Internet database download, CD-ROM, printed publication	Internet database download, CD-ROM, printed publication	Internet database download	Internet database download and Internet download of predefined table and/or time-series, e-publication and print
Website	http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat	http://elibrary-data.imf.org/	TIS: - http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?datasetcode=TIS - http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?datasetcode=TIS_EBOPS2010 TISP : - http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?datasetcode=TISP - http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?datasetcode=TISP_EBOPS2010	http://unstats.un.org/unsd/servicetrade/	http://stat.wto.org/Home/WSDBHome.aspx?Language=E

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

Statistics database

Welcome to the WTO statistics database, which allows presentations.

- The *Trade Profiles* provide predefined information on other selected economies;
- The *Tariff Profiles* provide information on the selected economies;
- The *Services Profiles* provide detailed statistics on telecommunications, finance and insurance; and
- The *Time Series* section allows an interactive presentation.

Trade Profiles
Tariff Profiles
Services Profiles
Time Series on international trade
Breakdown of other commercial services

Copyright: Permission to make digital or hard copies of any information contained in these Web pages is granted for personal or classroom use, without fee and without formal request. Full citation and copyright notice must appear on the first page.

world and regional growth rates. The quarterly data will be made publicly available approximately after 65 days after the end of the quarter and the monthly dataset will be updated twice a month.

The WTO Secretariat also updates twice a year its trade profiles series for 180 members, observers and other selected economies (once a year for the paper version). They present, for each economy, standard information on the structural trade situation (including commercial services trade) and relevant trade

policy measures. The profiles are complemented with general macroeconomic indicators. Finally at the end of 2011 the WTO updated its "Services Profiles" which provide standard information on key "Infrastructure services" (*transportation, telecommunications, finance and insurance*) for over 90 economies. Around 100 indicators relating to investment, market performance, production, employment, trade as well as performance rankings are available.

For more information see: <http://stat.wto.org>

PAST EVENTS

33rd Meeting of the Interagency Task Force on Statistics on International Trade in Services Statistics (TFSITS)

Paris, 10 November 2011, hosted by OECD

The Task Force discussed Terms of References and composition of the UN Expert Group to be in charge of the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services Statistics (MSITS 2010) Compilers Guide –to be finalized by mid 2013. The draft annotated outline of the Compilers Guide for MSITS 2010 was reviewed as well as the draft BPM6 Compilation Guide Service Chapter and Insurance Annex which had been made available by IMF to the group. Another important topic discussed was the further coordination of technical assistance. Data quality was also, once again, an essential item on the agenda with discussions on harmonizing trade in services data across International Organisations' (IO) databases and the proposal to attach the

UNSD Trade in Services overview [Matrix](#) to the different IO Trade in Services datasets. In future, the use of SDMX may help to reduce some of the identified differences.

A report of the Eurostat meeting of the Second travel workshop was given. The classifications concordance annexes (EBOPS 2010 relations to CPC rev.2; ICFA rev.1 and W120) to MSITS 2010 were discussed noting that these are living documents that would be refined over time. A progress report on the harmonization and integration of FDI and AMNE statistics was given. Further details about the meeting are available at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/TFSITS/meeting-20011-11.htm>.

4th Meeting of the Working Party on International Trade in Goods and Trade in Services Statistics (WPTGS)

Paris, 7-9 November 2011, organized by OECD

WPTGS was this year organized in three parts, the first day being devoted to merchandise trade with a special focus on the compilation of Unit Value Indices, the second day dealt with cross cutting issues and in particular trade in value added and

Trade by Enterprise Characteristics (TEC). On the third day, dedicated to trade in services statistics, the focus was on statistical sources (ITRS, Surveys, credit cards etc). For more information about WPTGS see: www.oecd.org/std/its/wptgs

**INTERAGENCY TASK
FORCE ON
STATISTICS OF
INTERNATIONAL
TRADE IN SERVICES
(TF-SITS)**

**WORKING PARTY ON
INTERNATIONAL
TRADE IN GOODS
AND TRADE IN
SERVICES
STATISTICS
(WPTGS)**

32nd Meeting of the Interagency Task Force on Statistics on International Trade in Services Statistics (TFSITS)

Luxembourg, 28-29 March 2011, hosted by Eurostat

The TFSITS meeting documents can be available at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/TFSITS/meetings-tf.htm>

The Task Force took note of the status of the publication of MSITS 2010 which has since been made available [on line](#). A short report from the recent Global Forum on trade statistics was presented and the Task Force took note of the request for more detailed trade in services statistics. The TIS breakdown that will be collected from 2014 by Eurostat was presented, and it was recognized that the level of detail requested was already seen as a challenge by Eurostat member countries. On a longer term the Task Force encourages further work on the collection of TIS by product CPC/CPA and industries ISIC/NACE. SDMX and the draft EBOPS coding for the DSD were discussed. Eurostat, OECD and WTO reports on differences across international databases following a predefined taxonomy were presented. On compilation guidance, the Task Force agreed that UNSD should take the lead in setting up an expert group of limited size of national experts from CBs and NSOs that will prepare the MSITS 2010 Compilers Guide (as well as prototype questionnaires) which would complement the IMF work on services. This group will prepare the Compilers Guide initially as an electronic publication that should be finalized by mid 2013. The Eurostat FATS recommendations Manual was presented as well as a report on the recent Eurostat travel group in Vienna.

Following a country request, where to record management of patents and license fees in EBOPS 2010 was agreed upon. The Task Force noted the interest of the survey on legal services by modes of supply conducted by the Australian ILSAC with the advice of ABS and stressed it is a possible cost-effective way of getting information on specific services, in very particular circumstances when synergies can be found with specialized agencies. The issue of un-bundling packaged tours was discussed and the EBOPS classification correspondences to other classifications (CPC rev.2, ICFA and W120) was reviewed. Further details about the meeting are available at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/TFSITS/meeting-2011-03.htm>

On the last day (30th of March) there was a joint meeting of TFSITS and the Task Force on International Merchandise Trade Statistics. The follow up of the Global Forum was discussed with the review of a 2020 vision document for trade statistics.

The comprehensive document “Impact of globalization on national accounts” was presented. OECD and Eurostat presented their respective work on Trade by Enterprise Characteristics. UNSD reported on a plan to produce a Compendium on Trade and Business statistics. OECD reported on the project on Trade in Value added and WTO on MIWI and its cooperation with IDE-Jetro on International input-output tables.

Interagency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services



EDITORIAL NOTE

The Newsletter of the Interagency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services (TFSITS) is a joint publication of the members of the task force: the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) - the Task Force is chaired by OECD. The Newsletter is prepared by the International Trade in Services Section of the United Nations Statistics Division - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. This Newsletter does not necessarily express the official position of any of the members nor is it an official document of the United Nations.

Contact: United Nations Statistics Division, International Trade in Services Section, New York, NY 10017, USA, (tradeserv@un.org)