



**United
Nations**

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

Follow-up Work on Manual on Principal Indicators, Vol. 1

5th Meeting of the UN Committee of
Experts on Business and Trade Statistics

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2021 UN Statistical Commission mandate



**BETTER DATA
BETTER LIVES**

1-3 March and
5 March 2021
[VIRTUAL]

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- Decision 52/107 in 2021: the Statistical Commission “endorsed the proposed workplan [of UNCEBTS] for 2021 and 2022, including the preparation of a manual on the global core set of principal business”



2022 UN Statistical Commission



- Draft Prepared by the task teams on Business Dynamics, Demography & Entrepreneurship; Well-being and Sustainability and Globalization & Digitalization
- [Global Consultation](#) in January 2022 and presented as background document at 2022 Statistical Commission
- The Commission [took note of volume 1 of the manual](#), encouraged the [preparation of volume 2](#) to further elaborate on the international trade indicators, and [encouraged the Committee to prioritize the indicators](#) and to assess the possibility of [developing global databases](#) for the indicators building on existing initiatives and based on the capacity of countries in producing this information”



Results of Global Consultation

- Received **66** responses from 59 countries (including 3 statistical organizations from one country) and 5 international organizations
- Overall, the Manual was well received and does not need major revisions
- 64 of 66 respondents agreed with the structure of the Manual
- 62 of 64 agreed the Manual provides useful and practical information on the reference list of indicators
- 57 of 64 agree that the Manual covers all relevant aspects related to the indicators
- 60 of 64 consider the draft Manual ready for publication, subject to the incorporation of the global consultation comments



Types of comments received

- Many indicators with many detailed breakdowns
- Strengthen the description of the integration of business and trade statistics
- Further elaborate on choice of enterprise-centered approach
- Comments on technical sheets of some indicators – (e.g. clarifying algorithms and definitions)
- Adding terms to the Glossary
- Some comments on potential new indicators for consideration by the task teams



Finalization of the Manual Vol. 1

- For the smaller editorial comments, UNSD is addressing them in the text in track changes.
- UNSD is facilitating the formation of editorial teams to work on addressing the comments in the manual.
- The editorial group will provide guidance on how to address the more substantive comments and on the wording/rewording of the text.
- Will be finalized by end of this year.



Prioritization

The task teams propose to prioritize the **BREAKDOWNS** for each indicator based on:

- ✓ data availability
- ✓ an understanding of global policy relevance and user demand

- 2-digit ISIC division
 - enterprise size
 - legal form
 - trading status
- type of ownership
 - by sex
 - etc.



Proposals for the implementation of the Manual

- **Raise awareness** of the indicators and implementation of indicators in Manual Vol. 1
 - e.g., Promotion material based on case studies
- **Develop supporting training materials**
 - e.g., Organize webinars, develop training courses on the collection, dissemination and use of these indicators
- **Make an assessment** of which principal indicators from the Manual are published by international and regional organizations and **identify gaps**
- **Develop a global database** for these indicators building on existing initiatives and based on the capacity of countries in producing this information

Thank you!