United Nations
Statistics Division

UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON BUSINESS AND TRADE STATISTICS

TASK TEAM ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE STATISTICS

GUIDANCE NOTE
Indicators on Trade Statistics (Goods and Services)

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An Overview of International Trade

OBJECTIFS

- Provide guidance and help researchers and policymakers to have accurate measurement of global trade;
- Highlights the importance of the degree of integration on the global economy;
- Measure the level of diversification of goods and services within international production networks;
- Give an insight on the impact of integration on regional and bilateral trade flows;
- Monitoring, analysing and counducting trade policies.

Indicators on foreign trade in goods and services are used mainly to:

1. Assess the determinants and patterns of trade;
2. Assess the degree of integration of the national economy into the global economy;
3. Analyse the effects of trade policies in terms of competitiveness, trade openess, integration and export diversefication;
4. Study the external balances with a view to implementing measures to correct imbalances;
5. Establish the projections at the macro-economic and sectoral level;
6. Monitoring of Free Trade Agreements; and other uses.

EXPECTED RESULTS AND MILESTONES

1. Identification of a set of indicators that could be recommended for countries as a reference list for trade statistics areas;
2. Also improve and facilitate the interpretation and use of the main indicators presented, with precision on the metadata, in particular the data sources and the calculation methods. for this it is proposed to establish a standard model of indicator sheet
3. Organize a meeting, or short seminar, specific to practical cases with the possible participation of researchers;
4. Drafting Manual
5.

A SHEET STRUCTURE PROJECT

1. Title of the Indicator
2. Type: descriptive/ analytical
3. Statistical domain:
4. Definition:
5. Mathematical formula:
6. Economic interpretation:
7. Data sources:
8. Related terms:
9. Associated classifications:
10. Creation date
11. Last updated date

1. Name of the indicator
2. Definition of the indicator
3. Objective of the indicator
4. Contribution and usefulness of the indicator
5. Classification
6. Industrial Coverage
7. Breakdown
8. Algorithm
9. Description of the calculation of the indicator
10. Unit of measure
11. Statistical unit
12. Reference period
13. Frequency (periodicity) of data collection and dissemination
14. Dissemination format
15. Timeliness
16. Source data type
17. Reference documents

5 INDICATOR GROUPS

first proposed list

1. **Foreign trade coverage ratio**
   trade balance: Goods, services, large trade balance
2. **Trade openness:**
   - **Trade to GDP ratio**
   - **Export propensity**
   - **Import penetration ratio**
3. **Trade performance indicators**
   - **Market Shares**
   - **Trade share**
4. **Geographic concentration indicators**
   - **Trade Complementarity Index**
   - **Export Diversification (or concentration) Index**
   - **Export Market Concentration Index**
   - **Import Market Concentration Index**
   - **Export Product Concentration Index**
   - **Import Product Concentration Index**
5. **Trade intensity and specialization indicators**
   - **Trade Intensity Index**
   - **Revealed Comparative Advantage**
   - **Export Specialization Index**

INDICATORS LINKED TO OTHERS DOMAINS

1 **Trade and Well-being**

- Affordability of imported goods
- Share of imported goods in consumption by household type
- Product diversification of imports

Other domains ?

Thank you
Merci
Chokran

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