Progress report:

Handbook on Integrating Business and Trade Statistics (HIBTS)
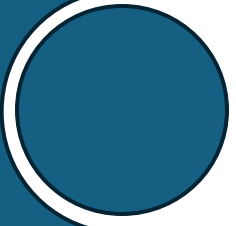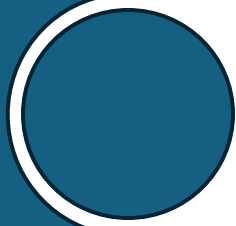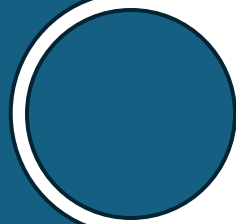
Outline

- Background, objectives and scope of HIBTS

- Progress of the HIBTS

- Global Consultation

- Initiative for a repository of practices

- Timeline and next steps
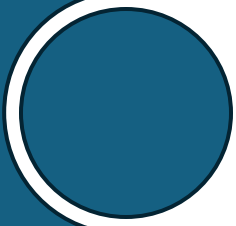
Background, objectives and scope of HIBTS

Background

- The HIBTS team has already carried out fifth editing rounds so far, which include revisions from the HIBTS team, the TT-ITS, the TT on SBR, and the TT on BDDE members

- Additionally, HIBTS has been included in two global consultations of the TT-ITS to examine the status of linking business and trade statistics in countries, and to promote participation in these efforts by sharing experiences

- Currently, the Chief Editors have made updates based on comments from the UNCEBTS Bureau members and ongoing discussions with the IMTS and MSITS Chief Editors

Objectives of HIBTS

The main objectives of HIBTS:

- Provide the conceptual and methodological framework related to the integration of business and trade statistics

- Include technical guidance for building and strengthening capacities on the MDL process

- Share country experiences related to the linking business and trade

- Guide countries to produce linking business and trade (goods and services) statistics in an international comparable manner
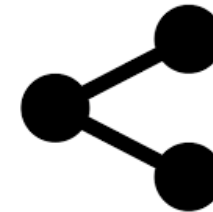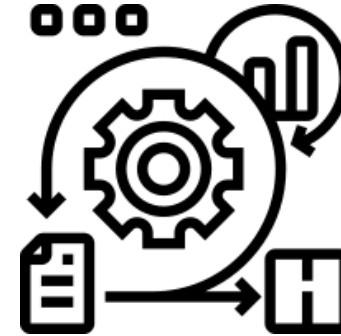
Scope of HIBTS

The HIBTS integrates the following elements:

HIBTS

- Conceptual
- Methodological
- Compilation practices
- Country experiences
- Research agenda
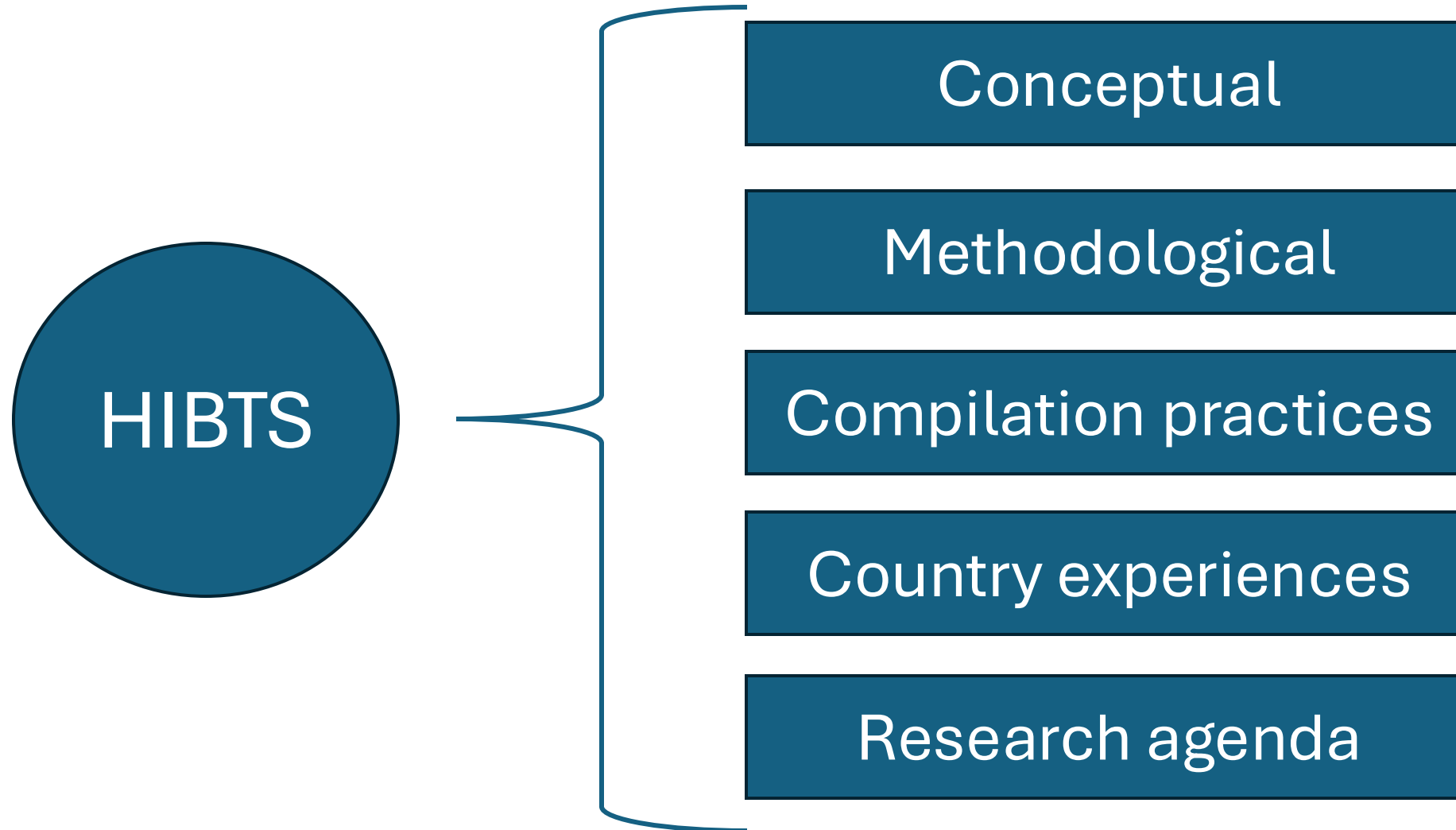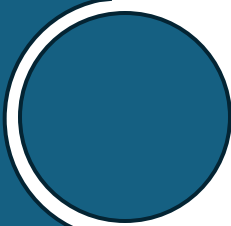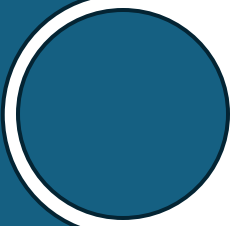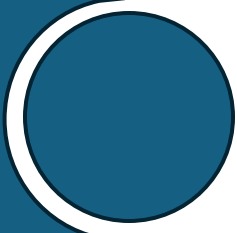
Progress of the HIBTS

Updated Outline: Chapters and sections

HIBTS working outline 5th editing round

1. Introduction	1.1. Motivations and policy relevance 1.2. Scope and objectives 1.3 Going beyond TEC and STEC 1.4 Structure of the Handbook
2. Data Sources and institutional environment	2.1. Business Statistics 2.2. Statistical Business Register 2.3. International Trade Statistics 2.4. Other useful data sources 2.5. Institutional environment
3. Data linking methods	3.1. Micro Data Linking 3.2 Statistical Matching
4. Linking business and trade statistics	4.1. Process for linking business and trade in goods statistics 4.2. Process for linking business and trade in services statistics
5. Quality and comparability	5.1. Measuring the quality of linking business and trade in goods and services 5.2. Scope and comparability between linking business with trade in goods and services
6. Dissemination and principles of confidentiality	6.1. Confidentiality dimensions 6.2. Coverage and data dimensions 6.3. Data and metadata dissemination for TEC 6.4 Data and metadata dissemination for STEC
7. Innovation on linking business and trade statistics	7.1. Integrating gender in business and trade statistics 7.2. New opportunities for the measurement of the digital economy 7.3. Extensions to Balance of Payment Statistics and National Accounts 7.4. Linking to Social statistics 7.5. Subnational statistics 7.6. Issues related to linking trade in goods statistics with trade in services statistics 7.7. Other relevant analysis

Status

- HIBTS concluded the 5th editing round, which includes:

  - Input from the IMF were received and included regarding the section on *Institutional environment*

  - Clarifications and updates based on the comments and suggestions provided by OECD and UNSD and reviewers from NSOs

  - Update of Chapters 1-4 considered the current recommendations on TEC and STEC from Eurostat manuals

- Currently, the draft of HIBTS is under a global consultation

Outstanding issues

Quality

Feedback from the IMTS and MSITS Chief Editors on the topics of Quality and Confidentiality. The topic of quality is built upon the UN National Quality Assurance Framework 2019

Confidentiality

It is reviewed from two approaches, confidentiality in the input (access to data) and output (process and dissemination). It is also considered to keep homogeneity with the IMTS and MSITS manual in the language used

Institutional arrangements

It is envisaged collaboration across the two trade manuals and the revision by IMF to maintain consistency. It also addresses the issue of the sharing of data across agencies

Gender

Coordination regarding the inclusion of a gender perspective in the trade manuals. The Handbook on Integrating Business and Trade Statistics and the Manual on International Merchandise Trade Statistics 202X Chief Editors has kept communication with the TT on BDBDE leader
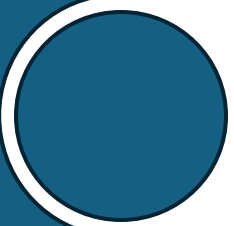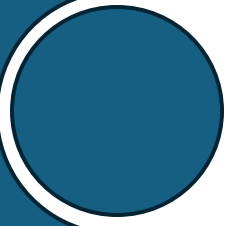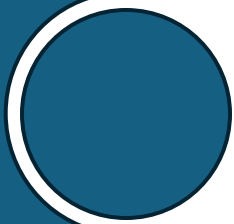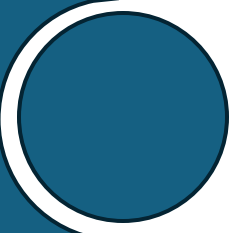
Global consultation

Global Consultation of HIBTS

- The global consultation for HIBTS started on September 17ᵗʰ and it will conclude on October 11ᵗʰ. Respondents are encouraged to complete the online version of the questionnaire (SurveyMonkey)

- The Global Consultation aims to get feedback from international trade statisticians and business statisticians, and compilers of business and trade data, regarding the draft of the HIBTS

- Particularly, it is expected to receive feedback on the clarity of the elements included in the handbook and inquiry about other challenges or relevant issues not addressed yet or that requires to be complemented

- Likewise, it includes a template of national practices, with the aim to collect experiences on the integration of business and trade statistics. Respondents are invited to upload their document in the Global Consultation site

Comment Form for
Global Consultation on the
Handbook on Integrating Business and Trade Statistics

Section I.   Contact information:

1.1. Country: Click or tap here to enter text.		
1.2. Institution: Click or tap here to enter text.		
1.3. Contact person: Click or tap here to enter text.	**1.4. E-mail:** Click or tap here to enter text.	

Section II.   Chapters-specific comments on the HIBTS

In this section, you are invited to provide any chapter-specific comments or recommendations for the HIBTS. Please feel free to include your comments or suggestions by considering the following key elements:

- Strengthen and improve the content of any chapters by considering the following aspects: completeness, clarity, and usefulness.
- Other suggestions related to the editing of the document.
- Clarifications concerning the country's practices that are included in the chapters.

Instructions:

- Please indicate the chapter in which you want to provide specific comments or suggestions. It would be appreciated if you could specify the number of paragraphs, boxes or figures you are referencing. (*For example, Paragraph. 9: It is recommended to include a reference to ....*)

2.0. Preface
Click or tap here to enter text.

2.1. Chapter 1. Introduction. *(Please specify the paragraph numbers, or box/figure numbers you are referencing)*
Click or tap here to enter text.

2.2. Chapter 2. Data sources and institutional environment. *(Please specify the paragraph numbers, or box/figure numbers you are referencing)*
Click or tap here to enter text.

2.3. Chapter 3. Data linking methods. *(Please specify the paragraph numbers, or box/figure numbers you are referencing)*
Click or tap here to enter text.

2.4. Chapter 4. Linking business and trade statistics. *(Please specify the paragraph numbers, or box/figure numbers you are referencing)*
Click or tap here to enter text.

2.5. Chapter 5. Quality framework. *(Please specify the paragraph numbers, or box/figure numbers you are referencing)*
Click or tap here to enter text.

2.6. Chapter 6. Dissemination and principles of confidentiality. *(Please specify the paragraph numbers, or box/figure numbers you are referencing)*
Click or tap here to enter text.

2.7. Chapter 7. Innovation in linking business and trade statistics. *(Please specify the paragraph numbers, or box/figure numbers you are referencing)*
Click or tap here to enter text.

2.8. General comments on the HIBTS:
Click or tap here to enter text.

Integrating business and trade statistics

TEMPLATE FOR NATIONAL PRACTICES

Instructions:

Please provide a short description (maximum 3 pages in font Times New Roman #11) of the process to integrate business and trade statistics addressing the elements included in the following table. Also, if you consider that it is necessary to complement the information, you can share any document and/or hyperlinks to get more information, as well as graphs and/ or figures. Particularly, it is required:

- Identify the **topic**(s) that better reflects the content of your practice.
- 5-6 **Keywords** that provide readers with terms to facilitate the search of practices of interest.
- An **Introduction** providing a summary of national practices and addressing the institutions/stakeholders involved. In cases of institutional cooperation, please mention if there is a law, a Memorandum of Understanding, or any cooperation agreement. Moreover, please indicate if the practice/indicator addresses any requests from policymakers.
- A **Content** section a short description of the statistical products developed emphasizing its scope, periodicity, breakdown, dissemination practices and timeliness, among other core topics such as confidentiality. Additionally, it should include a short description of the process for linking business and trade data mentioning, data sources employed, techniques used, classifications and other technical considerations (e.g., software and other IT requirements, stand-alone application). Also, mention the data sources used (Census, Survey, Administrative, Other sources), techniques used, classifications, and other technical considerations.
- Some **Closing remarks** with a brief description of the results, the main challenges faced, difficulties in achieving the objectives, improvements made, as well as future plans.
- Finally, please provide any **Hyperlinks to additional documents** to get additional information.

Main topic(s) associated with your practice:

- ☐ Trade by Enterprise Characteristics (TEC)
- ☐ Services Trade by Enterprise Characteristics (STEC)
- ☐ Social Statistics / Gender
- ☐ Subnational Statistics
- ☐ Services Trade by Modes of Supply
- ☐ Environmental Statistics
- ☐ National Accounts
- ☐ Other. Specify_____

Title:
Institution:
Country:
Contact name:
Email:

Keywords:
Include 5-6 keywords that provide readers with terms to facilitate the search of practices of interest
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.

Introduction

This section should include a summary of national practices, and it must address the institutions/stakeholders involved (in case of institutional cooperation mention if there is a law, a Memorandum of Understanding, or any agreement of cooperation). (1-2 paragraphs)

Content (core description: data sources; processing and data linking; IT software; dissemination; etc.)

This section must include a short description of the statistical products developed emphasizing on its scope, periodicity, breakdown, dissemination practices and timeliness, among other core topics such as confidentiality. (1-2 paragraphs)

Also, it should include a short description of the process for linking business and trade data mentioning, data sources employed, techniques used, classifications and other technical considerations (e.g., software and other IT requirements, stand-alone application). (2-4 paragraphs)

Closing remarks

This section might include a short description of the results, the main challenges of the practice, the difficulties in achieving the objectives and improvements (coverage, data quality, unique identifiers, etc.) as well as future plans. (1-2 paragraphs)

Hyperlinks and additional documents (optional)
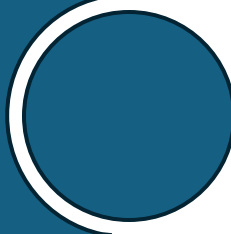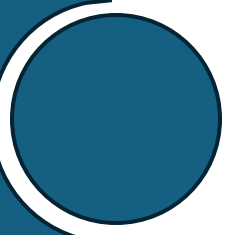
Initiative for a repository of practices

Repository of practices on linking business and trade

- The Chief Editors of HIBTS are coordinating with the UNSD team to create a repository of practices for integrating business and trade statistics. Current discussions with the UNSD are focused on the content and interface of the site that will host the repository of practices

- The repository will be based on the experience of the Country Progress Report site for the Wiesbaden Group[1], taking into account the compilation (receiving filled templates) and dissemination of country experiences

1: https://unstats.un.org/wiesbadengroup/cpr

Repository of practices on linking business and trade

- To support the inclusion of practices in the repository, the HIBTS team circulated a template for national practices which is a homogeneous format where contributors can share their experience

- The template includes the contact details, the introduction, main content, closing remarks and a space for including some hyperlinks. Additionally, it contains of a set of topics for categorizing the practice, as well as it requests 5-6 keywords to ease the searching on the site

- The following slide includes an example from Mexico identifying the topic and main keywords. The final list of keywords will be constructed based on the words proposed by country experts from their templates

Suggested topics for classifying the practices

Domain

Topics[1]

Keywords[2]

Integrating business and trade statistics (goods and services)

- TEC
- STEC
- Social statistics / Gender
- Subnational statistics
- National Accounts
- Services Trade by Modes of Supply
- Environmental statistics
- Others

- Establishment
- MDL deterministic
- Geospatial information
- Exports
- Trade in goods

1. This proposal of topics is subject to be updated based on the practices received
2. This list is only an example based on INEGI's experience for producing "Exports by States". The final list will be constructed based on the words proposed by country experts from their templates

Accessing the information:
By topic (then by keywords and country)

United Nations >> Department of Economic and Social Affairs >> Statistics Division >> **Integrating Business and Trade Statistics**

Topic*

Please select/search

TEC

STEC

MDL probabilistic

Subnational Statistics

...

Keywords

Please select/search

Establishment

MDL deterministic

Geospatial information

Exports

Trade in goods

...

Country

All x | Country 1 | Country 2

Country 1

Country 2

All
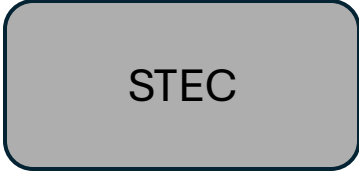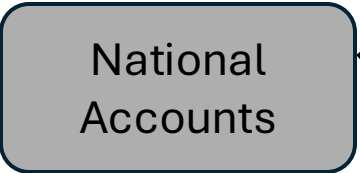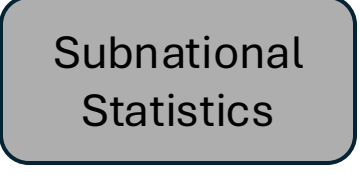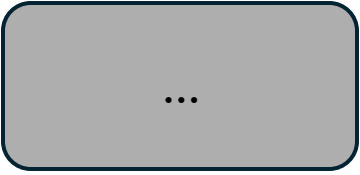
⬇ Extract

* It is expected to include a brief description of each of the topics included in the interface

Accessing the information:
By country (then topic and keywords)

United Nations >> Department of Economic and Social Affairs >> Statistics Division >> **Integrating Business and Trade Statistics**

Country

| All x | Country 1 | Country 2 |

Country 1

Topic*

Please select/search

TEC	National Accounts
STEC	Subnational Statistics
Social statistics / Gender	...

Keywords

Please select/search

- Establishment
- MDL deterministic
- Geospatial information
- Exports
- Trade in goods
- ...

Extract

* It is expected to include a brief description of each of the topics included in the interface

Experiences shared for the Repository

So far, there are 23 experiences on business and trade statistics integration practices from 16 countries, which correspond to:

Countries experiences			
Austria	Croatia	Indonesia	Singapore
Belgium	Finland	Malaysia	Spain
Brazil	Georgia	Mexico	Türkiye
Costa Rica	Germany	Netherlands	China

12 of these experiences include their topics and keywords for being considered in the pilot version of the repository

Key notes on the repository on integrating business and trade statistics

- **Interface and content of the HIBTS site:** Discuss the hosting arrangements, topics and content with the UN-DESA trade branch for developing a first version of the repository. It is envisaged that this proposal can be the basis for elaborating other repositories within UNCEBTS

- **Analyzing and organizing the experiences received:** Create a list of topics and keywords based on the templates provided by contributors and reviewers

- Due to several initiatives expect to produce their own repositories, it is needed to discuss at Bureau level about the **communication and coordination required to guarantee the right interconnection** among different domains and topics
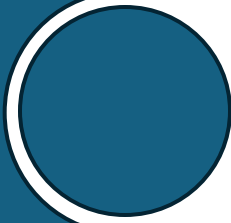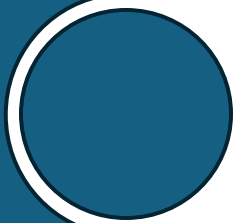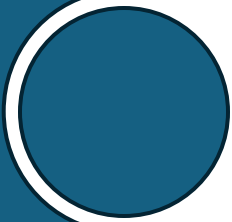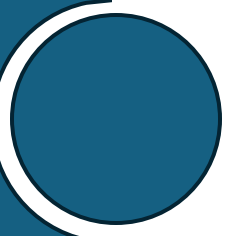
Timeline and next steps

Timeline of HIBTS for 2024

Preparation of the Global Consultation of HIBTS	July 22nd – August 31st	**Review and endorsement by the UNCEBTS** Bureau of the draft document and the questionnaire **for the global consultation**
	September 2nd - September 13th	**Preparation of the global consultation** based on the recommendations provided by the UNCEBTS Bureau
	September 17th - October 11th	**Global Consultation** of HIBTS
	October 14th - October 25th	UNSD will **process the responses** and share them with the Chief Editors

Preparation of the Final draft for its presentation to the UNSC	October 28th - November 22nd	**Update the document** based on the comments received from the Global consultation (contributors and reviewers) **and final revision** by chief editors
	November 25th – December 13th	Editorial revision by the **UNSD secretariat** **Preparation of the background document on HIBTS for the UNSC**
	December 16th – January 10th, 2025	**Review and endorsement of the HIBTS by the UNCEBTS Bureau**
	Early 2025	**Send the White Cover version of HIBTS to the UNSC Secretariat**

Next steps

- The global consultation is in progress (scheduled between September 17th and October 11th)

- It is important to mention that answers are expected from the national agencies in countries in the fields of business and trade statistics

- HIBTS will be updated based on the comments received in the Global Consultation

- Chief Editors will keep communication with the UNSD Trade Branch to discuss the next steps and the organization of the repository of practices on integrating business and trade statistics

- It is expected to deliver the white cover version of HIBTS in early 2025

Acknowledgment

We want to acknowledge and thank the representatives of National Statistical Offices, Central Banks, International Organizations (UNSD, OECD, IMF, Eurostat, UNCTAD, WTO), and the experts in business and trade statistics from the Task Teams for their valuable support

The progress achieved so far has been made possible by their dedicated contributions, collaboration, and communication throughout five rounds of editing and revision since 2023

Thank You!

Cristina Neves
Co-lead of the Task Team on International Trade Statistics
Statistics Portugal - INE
cristina.neves@ine.pt

Gerardo Durand
Deputy Director General of Economic Administrative Records
National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI-Mexico)
gerardo.durand@inegi.org.mx