

The background of the slide is a light gray network of interconnected nodes and lines, resembling a molecular or data network structure. The nodes are small gray circles, and the lines are thin gray lines connecting them in a complex, web-like pattern.

Task Team International Trade Statistics

Progress Update

UNCEBTS –25 September 2024

Brief overview of activities (2024)

- 2nd Global Consultation GN (27th February – 29th March 2024)
- Revision of trade statistics manuals (IMTS and MSITS)
- Drafting the Handbook on Integrating Business and Trade Statistics (HIBTS)
- Developing the on-line repository on country practices (HIBTS)
- Drafting the 2nd volume of Manual on Principal Indicators on Business and Trade Statistics (MPIBTS)
- Contributing to Gender mainstreaming in Business and Trade Statistics with IAEG-GS
- Development of the trade data tools

Summary and plan in 2024

- In-person/hybrid meeting in Ankara, Türkiye (June 2024)
- Monthly virtual meetings
- HIBTS Global consultation (17th Sep – 11th Oct 2024)
- MPIBTS Global consultation (November 2024)
- IMTS/MSITS: Document with the expected summary of changes to the UNSC (December 2024)
- HIBTS and MPIBTS – to be finalized in December 2024 (endorsement by the Bureau) – sent to UNSC in mid-January 2025
- Starting developing a way forward in advancing the globalization workstream

Agenda of the Ankara meeting (10-14 June 2024):

The meeting agenda included:

- ♦ BPM and SNA updates which relate to the trade manuals
- ♦ Outstanding issues of Guidance Notes; and global consultations
- ♦ IMTS and MSITS drafting, including outlines, draft text, and proposed recommendations
- ♦ Volume 2 of the Manual on Principal Indicators for Business and Trade Statistics
- ♦ Handbook on Integrating Business and Trade Statistics
- ♦ Plan for Q3-Q4 of 2024

Outstanding issues:

- **Scope of IMTS – Informal cross border trade:**
 - Non-observed trade and informal cross border trade
 - Most conceptually aligned with “adding to or subtracting from material stock of resources”
 - Illegal movements/ Illegal goods
- **Nature of transaction:**
 - Proposals for recording of transactions related to global production arrangements;
 - Exploring IMTS as a source of information on factoryless goods setups
 - Continuing discussions on the recommended set of output categories for Nature of transaction output codes, with a couple of options under consideration
- **EBOPS:**
 - Travel – identification of cultural activities; Treatment of intellectual property; Other issues
 - Improve alignment with National Accounts and allow classification of international transactions into capital formation and intermediate consumption

MSITS drafting:

- New outline is considered
- Clarifications on terminology, international services coverage and data sources
- Clarification of the measurement framework
- Emphasis on the reasons for the revision, aiming for wider collaboration and engagement
- Conceptual framework:
 - More complete definition of products
 - Dimensions, comparison and contrast of the conceptual framework of MSITS with related frameworks
 - MSITS should be overarching, with BOP and GATS being covered

IMTS drafting:

- Harmonization of terminology
- IMTS and MSITS: boundary and comparisons from the conceptual point of view
- Expanding the scope of cross-border movement by including goods entering or leaving the economic territory of a country illegally
- Cross-border principle versus change of ownership
- New topics to be covered:
 - Globalization
 - ICBT
 - Quasi-transit trade
 - Bilateral asymmetries
 - Record invoice values
 - TIC – Trade by invoicing currency (encouragement)

Volume 2 of the Manual on Principal Indicators for Trade Statistics (MPITS):

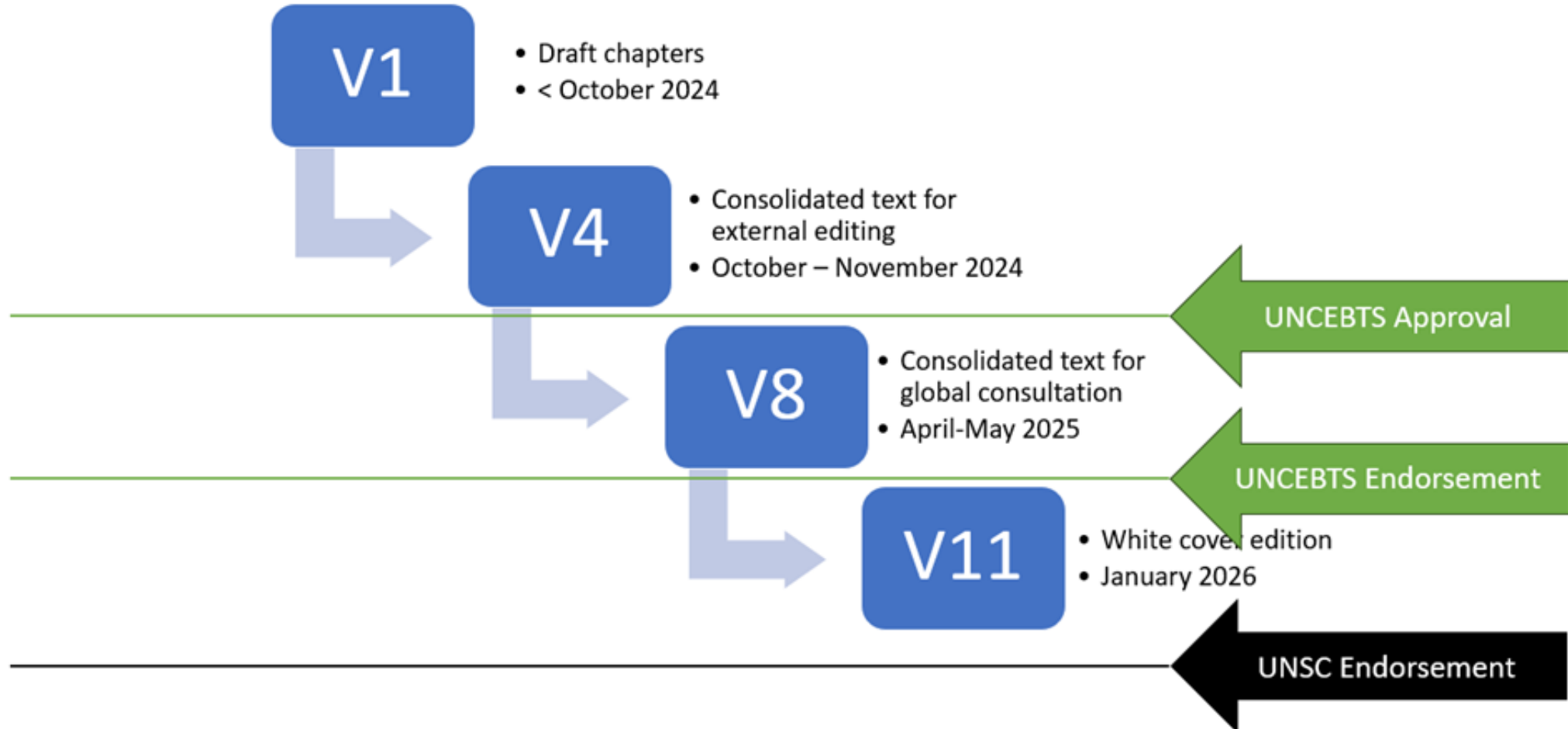
- Main challenge: prioritize indicators
- Aspirational indicators
- Benefits of closer integration with other domains
- Include other elements in the Manual:
 - Country experiences
 - Illustration of application cases
- Global consultation in November 2024
- Finalization in 2024; endorsement by the UNSC in March 2025

Handbook on Integrating Business and Trade Statistics (HIBTS):

- Harmonization with other manuals (IMTS, MSITS, MPIBTS):
 - Quality
 - Confidentiality
 - Same terminology
- Cooperation with other TT on the Business side (TT-SBR and TT-BDBDE)
- Include as much as possible national practices and examples
- Development of an online repository of country practices
- Global consultation is on-going (17th September – 11th October 2024)
- Finalization in 2024; endorsement by the UNSC in March 2025

IMTS and MSITS versioning and target deadlines

IMTS/MSITS Versioning and Target Deadlines



Emerging
topics in the
area of the
TT-ITS



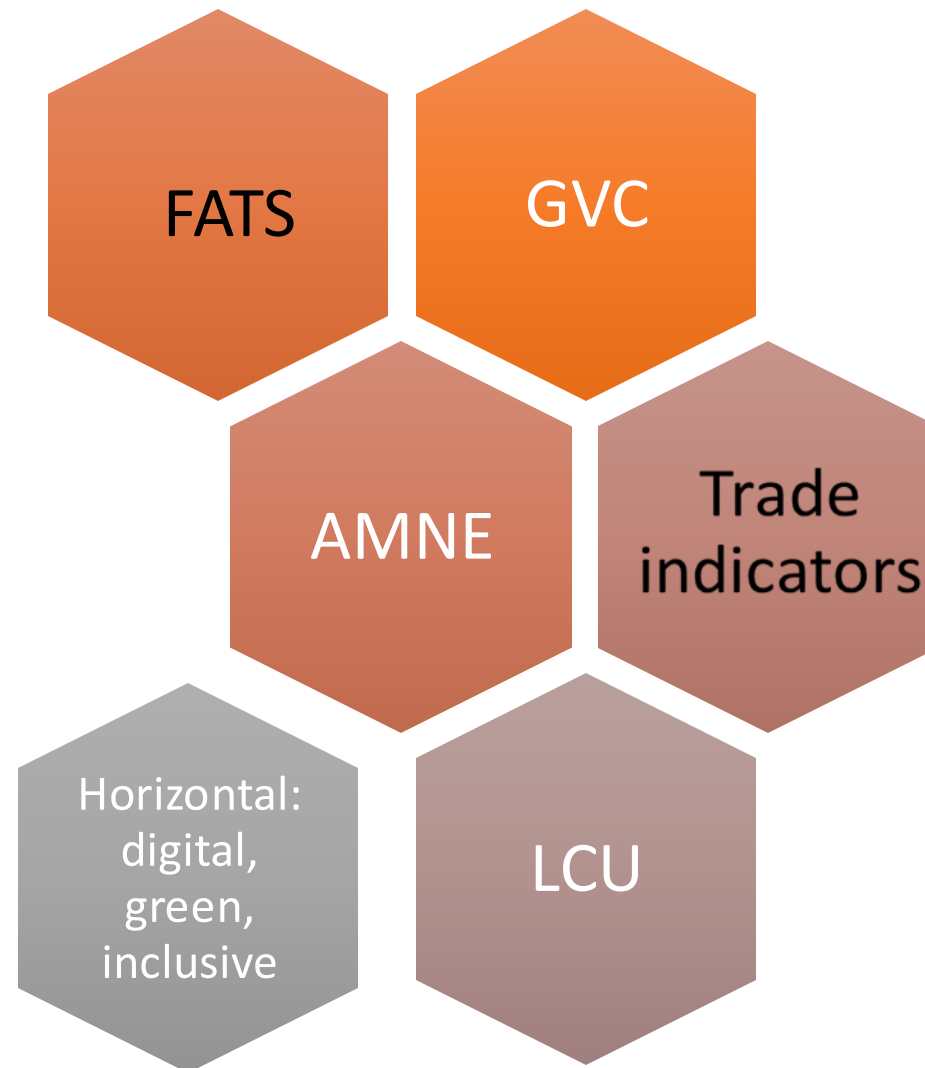
Emerging topics in the area of the TT-ITS

- The UNCEBTS Bureau decided that the TT-ITS should develop a way forward in advancing the globalization workstream;
- This should be made in close collaboration with other TT of the UNCEBTS;
- In fact, most of the topics related with globalization are already part of the TT-ITS work and responsibilities;
- But there are new issues that need to be further analysed and developed;
- The TT-ITS is starting the reflexion on this topic, and the inputs from the UNCEBTS are very welcome!

Emerging topics in the area of the TT-ITS

- Stocktaking on globalization-related activities in other working groups and assess the potential for collaboration (i.e., new OECD group on measuring of economic globalization)
- Re-confirmation that FATS is part of the MSITS (supply of services); and it is currently being handled by the MSITS team
- Horizontal: linking globalization issues with digital, green, and inclusive dimensions that have been discussed yesterday
- Large Case Units should be taken on board as a priority – and it is integrated and coherent with SNA/BPM
- Global initiative on unique identifiers for businesses: it includes MNEs
- Necessity to add more expertise to cover these subjects (because it is beyond the scope of traditional trade statistician role)

Emerging topics in
the area of the TT-
ITS:



Thank you!

UNCEBTS – 25 September 2024

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