# 6th meeting of the UN Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics

## 18-21 September 2023

## Session 2: New developments in business and trade statistics

**- Priorities of European business and trade statistics**

# Overview

➢ I. Background

➢ II. Relevant business and trade statistics for EU policies produced and used in the most efficient way

  ➢ Digitalisation

  ➢ Globalisation

  ➢ Green transition

  ➢ Inclusion

  ➢ Resilliance

# Background

➤ Dec 2022 Business Statistics Directors Group (BSDG) concluded: to regularly reflect on how to ensure continuous and lasting relevance of Business and Trade Statistics;

➤ March 2023 BSDG-SDG:

  ➤ Discussed the topic and took stock of actions already planned for next years

  ➤ Concluded that only a limited number of actions should be pursued and prioritized within identified priority areas

➤ June 2023 BSDG: workshop discussion on the relevance of European business and trade statistics

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# Relevant business and trade statistics for EU policies produced and used in the most efficient way

- Relevance of statistics = degree to which statistical information meets current and potential needs of the users

⟹ at EU level, users need data on **digital, global, green, inclusive and resilient businesses**

What do we already have and what will become available with the implementation of the European Business Statistics Regulation (EBS)?

What could still be improved?

- What data is still missing and how could we fill the data gaps?
- How could we make the production of existing business statistics more efficient (better quality, lower costs and burden)?
- How can we make better use of the already existing business and trade statistics?

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# Digitalisation strand

➢ What is already available or will become available with EBS Reg?

• Annual update of the ICT data requirements ensures the continuing relevance; future update will include e.g. revised indicators on use of data analytics by enterprises, incl. big data (ICT statistics)
• Updates of the statistics on the ICT sector calculated based on other business statistics (SBS)

➢ What could still be improved?

• Fill data gaps on:

  • Value data for e-commerce/digital trade

  • Data (experimental) on demand for ICT specialists and e-skills (produced by webscraping)

  • Data on digitally delivered services (by developing approaches on how to measure them, voluntary via grants)

• Reduce burden on respondents by using alternative sources to produce some ICT statistics

• Improve dissemination – Digitalisation dashboard, interactive publication

• Assess feasibility to provide data on further "sectors" of collaborative economy produced by using platform data (like for short-stay accommodation)

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# Globalisation strand         (1)

➤ What is already available or will become available with EBS Reg?

- **ITGS**, including **TEC** and **TIC**; new data elements in exchanged micro-data: data by country of origin for intra-EU exports (voluntary for imports); revised nature of transaction breakdown (relevant for BoP and NA); partner ID (VAT number) in intra-EU exports;

- **ITSS** under BoP Regulation; **STEC** and **MoS** to become official statistics in 2024;

- **ITSS** by CPA as a voluntary data collection;

- Voluntary **international sourcing** data; **GVC** statistics to become official statistics in 2025 (incl. mandatory international sourcing data);

- **FATS**: additional data for OFATS (variables, activities covered, EU MS breakdown) as well as data on domestic affiliates of foreign-controlled enterprises to become official statistics in 2024;

- **FDI** under BoP Regulation; voluntary data collection on FDI by Ultimate Investing Economy; work on Ultimate Host Economy and Greenfield investment;

- Work on **asymmetries** in international trade (goods and services) and FDI (with or without grants) has progressed and will continue;

- Use of **EGR** as authoritative source for business statistics (requiring the coordination of cross-border information related to multinational enterprise groups);

- Statistics on **EU MNE groups**

# Globalisation strand        (2)

➤ What could still be improved?

- Fill data gaps on:
    - SBS data broken down by "group status" useful for e.g. SME policies (by using MDL combining SBS with NSBR and EGR (voluntary via grants))
    - GVC additional voluntary surveys complementing triennial GVC surveys to better follow up rapid changes due to geopolitical events (voluntary via grants),
    - Drivers of globalisation (by using MDL combining GVC and other business statistics (voluntary via grants))
    - Indicators on impact of GVC on national economy e.g. import intensity also including indirect imports to better assess strategic dependencies (by analysing existing data sources (voluntary via grants))
    - Improved granularity of STEC data (voluntary via grants)
    - ITSS by BEC

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# Globalisation strand    (3)

➢ What could still be improved?

- Fill data gaps on:
  - The role and engagement of MNEs in trade in goods (by using new data elements from MDE to determine intra-group trade (voluntary via grants))
  - STIC - Trade in services by invoicing currency (voluntary via grants)
  - Financial indicators for MNE groups (by using new data sources - BEPS):
    - Examination of potential of use of Country by Country reports data for compiling European and national official statistics and organisational feasibility of getting access to them;
    - Voluntary transmission of anonymised and aggregated data to Eurostat of data already sent to the OECD;
    - Existing inter-institutional agreements in MS between tax authorities and NSIs allowing access to this interesting administrative data.

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# Green transition strand

➤ What is already available or will become available with EBS Reg?

- Improved country coverage of statistics related to innovation with environmental benefits
- New statistics related to innovation with environmental benefits will be available in 2024
- Circular economy (secondary raw materials) data from the PRODCOM list 2022 will be available in 2023
- New statistics related to environmental impact of ICT will be collected.
- New statistics planned to support European Green Deal (mainly environmental statistics)

➤ What could still be improved?

- Fill data gaps on:

  - UNCEBTS principal indicators (e.g. activity and size class breakdowns for water use efficiency, level of water stress attributable to businesses, share of renewable energy consumption, energy efficiency, green investments and greenhouse gas emissions)

  - Sustainability (environment/climate) of European businesses (using new data source of corporate sustainability reporting and EU taxonomy (coordination with environmental statistics))

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# Inclusion strand

➢ What is already available or will become available with EBS Reg?

- nothing under EBS

➢ What could still be improved?

- Fill data gaps on:

  - Gender breakdowns e.g. in TEC and STEC by linking NSBRs and social registers (voluntary via grants; UNCEBTS mainstreaming of gender breakdown)

  - UNCEBTS principal indicators (e.g. share of women in managerial positions in businesses and average hourly earnings of employees by sex)

  - Equality in European businesses (e.g. using new data source of corporate sustainability reporting (coordination with social statistics))

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# Resilience strand

➢ **What is already available or will become available with EBS Reg?**

- Short term data on businesses and ITGS

- Monthly ISP (EU aggregates published but complete coverage in 2024)

- Monthly business demography voluntary data collection disseminated in Feb 2023

➢**What could still be improved?**

- Fill data gaps on:

  - Supply chain distress/dependencies (by producing monthly/quarterly PRODCOM data and better analysis based on existing data sources (production networks?) (voluntary via grants)

  - CREIs (voluntary via grants; proposal legal text to be presented in 2023)

  - Business innovation aimed to increase the resilience of business processes/products (Eurostat and MSs are currently testing CIS survey questions)

- Timeliness of STS by making early estimates of mainly IPI

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# Thank you

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