Session 3: Light diaries

United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)

Social and Gender Statistics Section

Second Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Innovative and Effective ways to collect
Time-Use Statistics (TUS)

New York, 20-22 May 2019

Light time diary

- Matrix listing predefined list of activities and time intervals

- Respondents need to indicate the time of the day/ the time intervals when those activities were undertaken

- Experiences indicate that about 30 activities might constitute a practical upper level
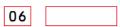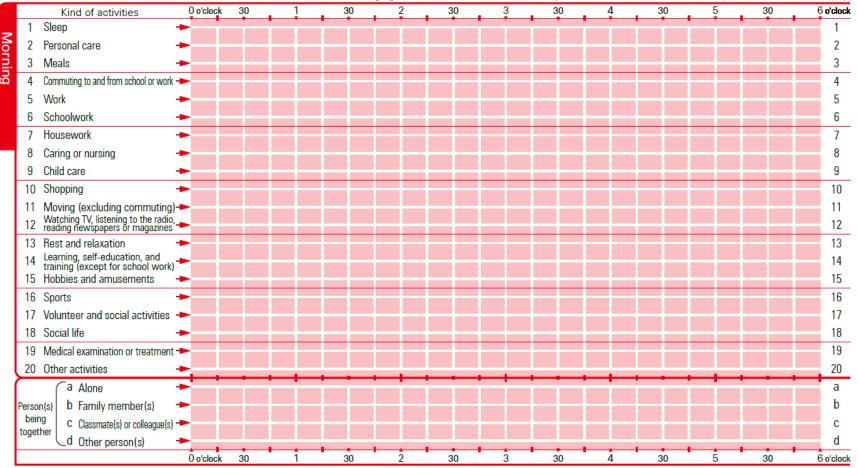
Japan 2016: Questionnaire A

24　Diary

- Please report on you did on each of the two days specified and how much time you spent on each activity, in units of 15 minutes.
- Please draw a horizontal line to specify the activity and persons with you for each 15 minute unite.

(1) Select the feature of this day from the categories listed below. (Please fill in the circle all applicable categories)

Travel and excursion	Event, wedding or funeral (lasting over half a day)	Business trip or training, etc.	Work at home	Under medical treatment	Holiday or vacation, etc.	Leave for child rearing or taking care of a sick child	Leave to take care of a family member	Other
○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

(2) How was the weather on this day?

Rained all day long	Rained occasionally	Not rained
○	○	○

06

[First Day]

Those who were engaged in more than one activity at the same time should report the main activity.

Morning

	Kind of activities	0 o'clock — 6 o'clock	
1	Sleep		1
2	Personal care		2
3	Meals		3
4	Commuting to and from school or work		4
5	Work		5
6	Schoolwork		6
7	Housework		7
8	Caring or nursing		8
9	Child care		9
10	Shopping		10
11	Moving (excluding commuting)		11
12	Watching TV, listening to the radio, reading newspapers or magazines		12
13	Rest and relaxation		13
14	Learning, self-education, and training (except for school work)		14
15	Hobbies and amusements		15
16	Sports		16
17	Volunteer and social activities		17
18	Social life		18
19	Medical examination or treatment		19
20	Other activities		20

Person(s) being together

a	Alone		a
b	Family member(s)		b
c	Classmate(s) or colleague(s)		c
d	Other person(s)		d

Light time diary

Advantages

- Less cost -> less coding
- Less time processing

Respondent:

- More manageable
- Less time consuming
- Require less degree of literacy of respondents

Challenges

- Bias to the specified activities

- Less detailed information, including contextual information

Light diaries in the world

	Country	Type of survey	Number of activities	Contextual information
1	Australia 2006	Pilot along a full TUS		
2	Benin 1998	Module	62 activities + other	
3	Cambodia 2004	Module	21 activities + other	No
4	China	Independent	20 activities	Use of internet
5	Finland 2010	Pilot along a full TUS	34 activities + other	With whom
6	Iraq 2007	Module	26 activities + other	No
7	Ireland 2005	Pilot	26 activities	With whom and location
8	Japan 2016	Independent	19 activities + other	With whom
9	Lao 2017-2018	Module	21 activities + other	No
10	Lesotho 2001-03	Module		
11	Madagascar 2001	Module	77 activities classified SNA/non SNA	
12	Netherlands 2012	Pilot along a full TUS		
13	Oman 2007-08	Module	22 activities + other	
14	Serbia 2015	Independent	21 activities + other	Location
15	Slovak Republic 2006	Pilot	29 activities + other (*)	With whom and location
16	Sweden 2010	Pilot along a full TUS	29 activities + other	
17	UK 2005	Module	30 activities + other	Location

Questions

- In order to be able to produce the outputs discussed in session 1, what activities should be in the pre-coded list?
  - Miscoding risks

- What additional information is needed and how should be collected?

- Do we need summary questions to obtain information about activities that are not frequent or that require further probing

- Pros/cons/limitations

- When should we recommend the use of light diary?