



Session 1. ICATUS-Background, scope and implementation in countries

Development of ICATUS: Background and History

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Background

- Main purpose of an activity classification: to provide a set of activity categories to be utilized in producing meaningful statistics on time use**

- Earlier activity classifications**
 - Not much detail on what people do as economic activity
 - Greater detail on non-economic activities: domestic and care work; and leisure



Purpose of ICATUS

- ❑ **A standard classification of all activities that the general population may spend time on during the 24 hours of the day**
- ❑ **Comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the use of time in different societies**
- ❑ **Comprehensive knowledge of all forms of work**
 - Need to give appropriate emphasis to classifying activities relating to household production -- which constitutes a significant proportion of total production in developing countries
- ❑ **To allow more precise delineation of the boundaries of economic and non-economic activities; and productive and non-productive activities**



Principles used for constructing ICATUS

- Must satisfy the broad range of analytical objectives of time use studies, and be applicable in both developed and developing countries**
- Must have a balanced and comprehensive coverage of all groups of activities in the general population**
- Detailed enough to identify activities of important subpopulations (e.g., women, children, elderly)**
- Be consistent with existing standard classifications and concepts in labour and economic statistics**
- Build on existing regional and national classifications**



SNA as basic framework for ICATUS

In ICATUS, activities are delineated with respect to the relationship they bear with the production boundary of the SNA.

Thus, three main categories in ICATUS:

- Activities within the SNA production boundary (“SNA work”; “Paid work”)
- Activities within the general production boundary but outside the SNA production boundary (“Non-SNA work”; “Unpaid work”)
- Activities outside the general production boundary (“Non-productive activities”; “Personal activities”)



SNA as basic framework for ICATUS

Why SNA?

- ❑ SNA is the framework for economic statistics**
- ❑ Linked to other international standards on economic concepts (economic activity) and classifications (ISIC, ICSE, ISCO)**
- ❑ Together with the concept of economic activity, provides a conceptual basis for distinguishing what is included in national accounts aggregates**
- ❑ Distinguishes between market and non-market activities; and what should be considered economic and non-economic activities**



Development of ICATUS

Expert group meetings in 1997 and 2000. NSOs, ILO, Eurostat, academic researchers

1997 ICATUS: 10 major divisions, heirarchical structure, 3 levels

2005 ICATUS: More elaborated, heirarchical structure, 5 levels :

15 major divisions

54 divisions

92 groups

200 classes

393 sublcasses

Countries were encouraged to use trial ICATUS, adapting it according to their needs.

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General issues then and now

- ❑ **The time devoted to work done for corporations/quasi corporations, non-profit institutions and government remains a “black box”.**
- ❑ **Duplication of activities in ICATUS, being a mixture of activity and context.**
- ❑ **The need to determine contextual variables (and the expected response categories) to implement the classification. Example: to distinguish activities of one major division from another, need “for whom” and “location”. Other important contextual variables: “with whom”. Activity-determined context: “paid vs non-paid” and “technology used”.**



Summary of country experience with Trial ICATUS

1. **Difficult to implement to 4th or 5th levels**
2. **New activities or way of doing things since the earlier ICATUS**
3. **Difficulty of coding some activities into ICATUS**
4. **Looking for work, religion, transportation, waiting, etc. (examples only, not exhaustive)**



ICATUS 2012

What we kept from ICATUS 2005

- **Basic framework is still SNA**
- **Continued to pay attention to harmonization with existing economic and labour concepts, classifications and standards**
- **Most of the building blocks (the groups within major division and division) were carried over**



ICATUS 2012

Major changes from ICATUS 2005

1. Simplify by reducing from 5 levels to 3 levels

- Discard the level dedicated to separating “Core activities” from “Related activities” (level 2 in ICATUS 2005)
- Discard the most detailed level(s)

2. Reduce from 15 major divisions to 8 major divisions

- Collapsing some major divisions of 2005
 - New Major division 1. Work (formerly 01 to 05)
 - New Major division 7. Leisure and sports (formerly 11 to 14)
- Migration of divisions or groups will be shown in respective presentations later

3. Contextual variables that need to be collected to implement this classification (to be discussed)



ICATUS 2012

Major Divisions

- 1 Paid work**
- 2 Unpaid domestic services for own final use within household**
- 3 Unpaid caregiving services to household members**
- 4 Community services and help to other households**
- 5 Learning**
- 6 Socializing, community participation and religious activities**
- 7 Leisure and sports**
- 8 Personal care and maintenance**