



Overview of Time Use Surveys worldwide

Social and Housing Statistics Section

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Overview of Time Use Surveys worldwide

Goal of my presentation

Put on the table some brief statistics on TUS worldwide

Especially to give a hint of how much they are integrated in the statistical systems of the countries

Delimitation

Only diary-based surveys (no stylized questionnaires)

Since 1990



Main Source

UNSD website on Time Use

Link:

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sconcerns/tuse/default.aspx>

Main limitation

No systematic data collection



TUS since 1990

At least:

- ❑ **185 Time use surveys were conducted worldwide**
 - 92 (50%) in “developing countries”¹
 - 93 (50%) in developed countries¹ (total of 35 countries/territories only)

- ❑ **In total 85 distinct countries:**
 - 28 “developed countries” (that is 80% of developed countries which conducted a TUS)
 - 57 “developing countries” (that is around 36% of developing countries which conducted a TUS)

¹ As defined by IMF’s concept of “Advanced economies”



Some indicators on TUS since 1990

Indicator \ Type of country	“Developed countries”	“Developing countries”
Number of countries with pilot surveys only	3 (11%)	10 (18%)
Average number of surveys conducted	3.3	1.6
Kaplan-Meier estimation of the average duration between 2 surveys	7 years	9 years
% of “ Light diaries ”	13	16
% of classifications used in last survey since 2000	0.0% ICATUS-based 59% HETUS-based 23% Others 18% Missing	26% ICATUS-based 40% HETUS-based 26% Others 9% Missing

United Nations Expert Group Meeting on the Revision of ICATUS, 11- 13 June 2012, New York



Main result

TUS are still a **non-generalized instrument** especially in developing countries

Why?

As you know:

- **Financial cost**

- **Technical cost:**

For data collection

In general requires specific efforts for a high return on investment (very rich data but difficult to analyse)



Conclusion

- ❑ However increasing demand from different stakeholders: measuring unpaid work, gender and other social inequalities, well-being...

- ❑ Real need of providing guidance and promoting technical cooperation and knowledge sharing between countries

- ❑ The finalization of ICATUS fits into this scheme: **providing a conceptual framework to facilitate the implementation of TUS worldwide as well as data comparability**