



Workshop for African countries on the implementation of International Recommendations for Distributive Trade Statistics

*27-30 May 2008
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*

Purpose of the questionnaire

The purpose of this questionnaire is to collect information on African countries practices in compilation of distributive trade statistics. It is therefore designed in a format allowing further aggregation of the responses and cross-country comparisons. The information obtained from this questionnaire will be used in a number of ways, including for:

- Assessment of the current status in compilation of annual and short-term distributive trade statistics in African countries in terms of their scope, coverage, timeliness and compliance with relevant international recommendations;
- Identifying challenges and good practices in collection, compilation and dissemination of distributive trade statistics in African region;
- Providing inputs for the preparation of future manuals that will assist compilers of distributive trade statistics.

Recording responses to questions

Please record your answers directly into the questionnaire form. Where appropriate, you are encouraged to provide descriptive answers in reply to the individual questions. Please provide also any further information/supporting documents that your country considers important for the compilation of distributive trade statistics.

The questionnaire is in unprotected form, however, if you are unable to check on boxes directly, please, follow the steps: (1) Left double-click on the box; (2) Select “checked”; (3) Click OK.

Due date

The United Nations Statistics Division would very much appreciate it if you complete the questionnaire by **30 April 2008**. Please, send your responses and any supporting documents to Ms. Arlene Adriano (e-mail: adriano@un.org).

Your response is highly appreciated and we thank you very much for your time in completing this questionnaire and your cooperation in this important study.

Questionnaire on African countries practices in compilation of Distributive Trade Statistics

Please provide your contact details:

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I. Institutional framework

1. Is there a legal framework for distributive trade statistics in your country?

Yes - Please check all that apply

Statistical Law

Trade/Commercial Act

Other - Please specify: _____

No

2. Which agency is responsible for the compilation of distributive trade statistics?

National Statistical Office

Line Ministry or Specialized agency

Other - Please specify: _____

II. Methodological framework

3. Which methodological framework is followed by your office as guidance in collecting, compiling and disseminating distributive trade statistics?

International Recommendations on Statistics of the Distributive Trades and Services, M 57, United Nations

Organization and Conduct of Distributive Trade Surveys, F 19, United Nations

National methodology

Other - Please specify: _____

III. Registers, units, classifications

4. Do you have a business register which defines the total population of units in distributive trade activities and provides the basis for sample surveys?

Yes

No → Skip to question 6

5. How often is the business register updated?

Continuously

Annually

Other - Please specify: _____

6. If your country does not have a business register, how is the survey frame for distributive trade units derived?

List-frame based

The latest enterprise/establishment census list

Administrative registers

Ad hoc list of units, composed from various sources

Area frame based

7. What is the basic statistical unit used for the compilation of distributive trade statistics?

Establishment

Enterprise

Other - Please specify: _____

8. Which of the following international classifications are used for distributive trade statistics in your country?

Economic activities classifications

- International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC)
Please specify the revision version of ISIC used in your country (for example ISIC Rev.3): _____

- National classification compatible with ISIC
- National classification not compatible with ISIC
- Other - *Please specify:* _____

Product classifications

- Central Product Classification (CPC)
- Other - *Please specify:* _____

9. What is the level of breakdown of distributive trade activities in the classification used by your country?
Please specify the number of:

- Sections
- Divisions
- Groups
- Classes

IV. Data sources and data collection strategies

10. What are the types of data sources used for compilation of distributive trade statistics in your country? *Please mark all that apply*

Statistical data sources

- Enterprise/establishment census
- Sample surveys
 - Enterprise surveys
 - Household surveys
 - Mixed household-enterprise surveys
 - Other - *Please specify:* _____

Administrative data sources

- Tax data
- Other - *Please specify:* _____

11. What is the periodicity of your currently conducted distributive trade surveys?

- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Annual
- Less frequently – *Please specify:* 5-YEARLY

12. Do you apply different strategies for data collection depending on the type and size of distributive trade units?

	Public sector units		Private sector units		
			Incorporated		Un-incorporated (informal)
	Large	Medium and small	Large	Medium and small	Small
Complete enumeration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sample	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not covered	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Please provide any additional comments for data collection strategies used in your country:
EXCLUDE ALL UNITS THAT CONTRIBUTE THE BOTTOM 0.5% OF THE TURNOVER FOR THE INDUSTRY

13. If you conduct a survey of the unincorporated (also called informal) sector enterprises engaged in distributive trade, what is its coverage?

- Total economy (urban and rural areas)
- Only urban areas
- Other - *Please specify:* _____

V. Data items and performance indicators

14. What types of data items do you collect about distributive trade units and with what periodicity?
Please mark all that apply

Data items	Periodicity			
	Monthly	Quarterly	Annual	Less frequently
Characteristics of units (location, size, legal organization, etc.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Employment data, incl. wages and salaries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Turnover (sales)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Purchases of goods and services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Inventories	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gross fixed capital formation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other - *Please specify:* _____

15. Do you compile any indicators for monitoring and evaluating the performance of distributive trade units?

- Yes
- Growth rates
 - Ratio indicators
 - Share indicators
 - Other - *Please specify:* _____
- No

VI. Distributive trade indices

16. Do you compile any type of distributive trade indices?

- Yes
- Indices of turnover changes in nominal terms (value index)
 - Index of turnover volume
 - Index of distributive trade output
 - Other - *Please specify:* _____
- No → Skip to question 19

17. What is the periodicity of distributive trade indices compiled by your country?

- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Annual
- Less frequently – *Please specify:* _____

18. What is the lowest aggregation level for which distributive trade indices are produced?

- 3-diggit level of ISIC or national classification
- 2-diggit level of ISIC
- 1-diggit level of ISIC
- Other - *Please specify:* _____

VII. Dissemination and use of distributive trade statistics

19. In your country distributive trade statistics is published:

- On a regular basis, according to a release calendar
- On an ad-hoc basis
- Not published

20. Do you produce and disseminate metadata on distributive trade statistics?

- Yes
- No

21. Who are the main users of distributive trade statistics in your country?

- Government institutions/agencies
- Academia
- Media
- National accounts
- Other - *Please specify:* PRIVATE SECTOR

22. What are the main challenges in collection, compilation and dissemination of distributive trade statistics in your country? *Please describe, if necessary, add additional page(s) for your comments:*

1. CLASSIFICATION OF UNITS ARE NOT ALWAYS EXISTENT OR IF THEY DO, MAY NOT BE AT THE DESIRED SIC LEVEL.

2. CLASSIFICATION ONLY EXISTS FOR
INDUSTRY AND NOT ACTIVITY LEVEL.

3. SHIFTS IN CLASSIFICATIONS OF UNITS BASED
ON CHANGING ACTIVITIES.

4. INCORRECT ADMINISTRATIVE DATA.

5. GENERAL RESISTANCE FROM RESPONDENTS
INCLUDING LATE RESPONDING AND REFUSALS.

6. PROBLEMS WITH TRACING SAMPLED UNITS.