Quarterly National Accounts
Sources for GDP by Production Approach

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UN Statistics Division
Methodology and data sources for QGDP by activity

Presentation outline

- Manufacturing
- Electricity, gas and water supply
- Construction
- Issues
Possible monthly/quarterly Data sources/Indicators

- Industrial Production index
- Sample survey of manufacturing establishments (main contributors to value added)
- Quarterly surveys on inventories.
- Exports
- Data on turnover reported for VAT purposes
- Data quantity produced reported for payment of excise duty
Mining and Manufacturing: Some issues

- Limited coverage of the Index of Industrial Production (covers only those employing 20 or more)
- Limited coverage of the Producer Price Index (covers only goods produced for sale on local market, exports are not included)
- Adjustment to sales and exports for change in inventories
- Adjustment to inventories for holding gains
- Estimate for non response
- Business Register not up-to-date
- Outsourcing
Possible quarterly indicators: values/quantities

- Public authorities: sales (value and quantity) of electricity and water
- Business accounts / Annual reports of producers
- Production structure (separate production accounts for production of electricity - hydro, thermal, nuclear and biomass)
- Unit price by type of product
- Unit price by type of customer (industrial, commercial, residential, etc)
Data sources: Construction

Possible quarterly indicators: values/quantities

- Administrative data: Data on building permits issued/floor area built from local authorities
- Return for tax purposes (corporate tax, VAT)
- Survey of:
  - Builders
  - Customers of builders

Input indicators

- Supply/usage of building materials - cement, iron sheets, paint,
- Employment/hours worked (+ productivity trend?)
Data sources: Construction (cont’d)

Output indicators

• Length of roads built (Kms)
• Progress payment for work done

Price indicators

Construction (Input price index)
• PPI + wage rates + margins
• Index of cost of building materials

Construction (Output Price Index)
• Pricing standard specifications
Construction: some measurement issues

- Large number of small contractors and informal businesses
- Long-term projects: issues of holding gains and allocation of output to quarters
- Subcontracting and possibility of double counting
- Speculative construction: price is not known at the time the work is done
- Data on own account construction by households specially in rural areas

Note: These same problems are also present in ANA. Statisticians need to seek assistance of experts in specific fields, e.g. civil engineers, architects and quantity surveyors, for construction.
Issues: Data availability

- Availability and Quality of Production data (Benchmark year, monthly/quarterly/annual)
- Availability and quality of production volume indices
- (Availability and quality of price data and price indices)
- Technical ratios (not regularly updated)
- Adjustment factors (not documented)
Thank You