National Accounts Workshop for SADC countries

16-19 June 2009, Windhoek, Namibia

Strengthening statistical capacity-building in support of progress towards the Internationally Agreed Developments Goals in the Southern African Development Community region

Country presentation

Zimbabwe
NATIONAL ACCOUNTS IN ZIMBABWE

1) INTRODUCTION

THE ZIMBABWE CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPILING NATIONAL ACCOUNTS IN ZIMBABWE. THE OFFICE IS UNDER THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE.

THE NATIONAL ACCOUNTS SECTION HAS A STAFF COMPLEMENT OF SIX PROFESSIONAL STAFF AND ONE SUPPORT STAFF.

THE COMPILATION IS GOVERNED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ACT. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT THERE IS A NEW STATISTICS ACT WHICH WAS APPROVED BY PARLIAMENT AND SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT.

UNDER THE NEW ACT;

THE CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE BECOMES AN EXECUTIVE AGENCY HEADED BY A DIRECTOR GENERAL.

THE ACT CREATES A NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM (NSS) WITH CSO AS A HUB.

THE ACT SPECIFIES THE ROLES OF PRODUCERS, USERS AND RESPONDENTS.

THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM IS COORDINATED BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL WHO ENSURES THAT STATISTICAL STANDARDS ARE MET AND CERTIFIES ALL OFFICIAL STATISTICS.

THERE WILL BE A COMMON STATISTICAL SERVICE AND THERE WILL BE A REGULAR AUDIT OF ALL STATISTICS PRODUCED BY DIFFERENT PRODUCERS APPROVED BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL.

2) NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

THE FOLLOWING APPROACHES ARE USED;

PRODUCTION APPROACH

EXPENDITURE APPROACH

INCOME APPROACH

THE PRODUCTION APPROACH IS THE MAIN APPROACH.

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR 2007.

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS FIGURES FOR 2008 ARE STILL BEING WORKED ON.

3) DATA SOURCES

THE NATIONAL ACCOUNTS ARE COMPILED USING

CENSUSES AND SURVEYS, AND ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK SURVEYS AND CROP FORECAST SURVEYS

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

CENSUS OF MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION COVERING

- MANUFACTURING

- MINING

- CONSTRUCTION

- ELECTRICITY AND WATER ESTABLISHMENTS

MONTHLY VOLUME OF MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION
VOLUME INDEX OF MINING PRODUCTION
UNIT VALUE INDEX OF MINING PRODUCTION
RETAIL TRADE INDEX
QUARTERLY CONSTRUCTION SURVEYS
RETAIL TRADE INDEX
TAX RETURNS FROM DEPARTMENT OF TAXES
NATIONAL INCOME SURVEYS COVERING WHOLESALING, RETAILING, TRANSPORT AND HOTELS
RETURNS FROM AIR ZIMBABWE
RETURNS FROM NATIONAL RAILWAYS OF ZIMBABWE
RESERVE BANK OF ZIMBABWE
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS COMPILED BY THE RESERVE BANK OF ZIMBABWE (RBZ) COMBINING MERCHANDISE TRADE FROM CSO AND SERVICES TRADE FROM RBZ.
EMPLOYMENT
QUARTERLY EMPLOYMENT SURVEY
FINANCE
GOVERNENT ACCOUNTS FROM MINISTRY OF FINANCE COVERING CENTRAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
PARASTATIAL RETURNS
SURVEY OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
NONPROFIT INSTITUTIONS SERVING HOUSEHOLDS (NIPSH) SURVEY
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND TOURISM
BED OCCUPANCY RATES
PRICES

CONSUMER PRICE SURVEY (CPI)
PRODUCER PRICE INDEX
BUILDING MATERIALS PRICE INDEX
CIVIL ENGINEERING MATERIALS PRICE INDEX
RENT AND DOMESTIC WORKERS SURVEY

INCOME CONSUMPTION AND EXPENDITURE SURVEY (ICES)

INFORMAL SECTOR

- INFORMATION FROM ICES IS USED TO ESTIMATE THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE INFORMAL SECTOR.

4) CHALLENGES

RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS

HIGH STAFF TURNOVER

THIS IS EXPECTED TO BE ADDRESSED BY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW ACT.

DELAYS IN THE FLOW OF DATA FROM DATA SOURCES AND LOW RESPONSE RATES

THE OFFICE IS NOW USING ENUMERATORS TO GET DATA FROM RESPONDENTS FOR CENSUSES OF PRODUCTION, ETC.

5) ASSISTANCE

THE OFFICE RECEIVED ASSISTANCE FROM THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (AFDB) AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY (SADC) THROUGH
ICP REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL WORKSHOPS AND NOW THROUGH THE STATISTICAL CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT COVERING THE PERIOD 2009 TO 2010.