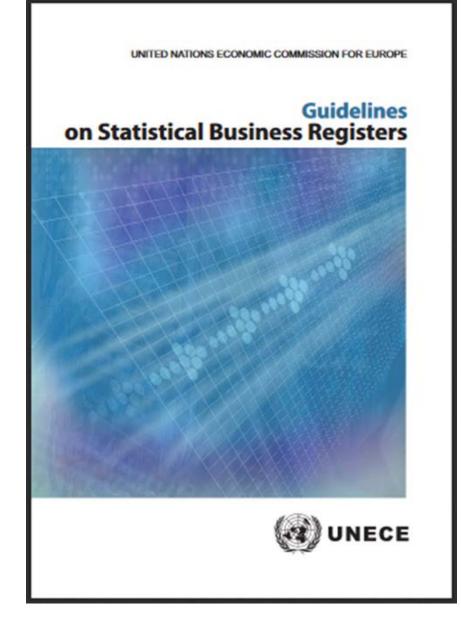
# UNECE Guidelines on Statistical Business Registers Overview and action points

**Norbert Rainer** 

First meeting of the UN Committee of Experts on Business Statistics, jointly organised by INEGI and UNSD Mexico City, 23 – 25 May 2018 Part IX: UNECE Guidelines on SBR - Overview

# **Guidelines on Statistical Business Registers**

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) New York and Geneva 2015 ECE/CES/39, 233 pages https://www.unece.org/inde x.php?id=40574



#### Content

- Goals of part IX
- UNECE Guidelines on SBR:
  - Background
  - Goals
  - Target groups
  - Development of the guidelines
- Structure of the Guidelines
- Overview of the single chapters, including action points

# **Goals of part IX of the Expert meeting**

- Recapitulation of the content of the UNECE SBR Guidelines
- Discussion of the action points already proposed by the expert group
- Identifying further action points
- Basis for the work plan in part X of the meeting

## **Benefits of comprehensive business registers**

- Consistent reference point for all classifications
- Reduction in duplication and inconsistent coverage of base data
- Coherence between different survey data
- Combination of administrative and survey data
- Micro-data linking
- Time series of business demographic information
- Monitoring of operating costs and response burden

# **Background of the Guidelines**

- Growing demand for high quality and detailed economic statistics
- Need for more efficient and integrated production of economic statistics
- The Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) established a task force in 2012 to develop guidelines to countries for establishing and maintaining SBRs
- The Guidelines were endorsed by CES and published by UNECE in 2015

# **Aims of the Guidelines**

- Targeted in principle at both developed and less developed statistical systems
- Provide practical guidance on core SBR issues of establishing and maintaining the SBR
- Clarify typology, concepts and definitions including for statistical units
- Provide guidance on the use of administrative and other sources
- Include country experiences and examples of good practices
- Provide guidance on how to use the SBR in its own right for production of statistics and how information from the SBR can be combined with information from other statistical registers, administrative sources or surveys to produce new statistics
- Provide guidance on the role of SBR on the integration of statistical business registers in the statistical production process

# **Target groups**

#### Guidelines are targeted to:

- SBR management
- SBR staff members
- Staff of business statistics
- Staff dealing with respondent relations
- Staff dealing with administrative authorities that deliver data to the SBR
- For training purposes

# Use of international manuals and guidelines

Use of current international manuals and guidelines:

- Manuals on international classifications, such as ISIC Rev. 4
- Variety of other international manuals, such as use of administrative data, on the informal sector, on business demography, on foreign affiliate statistics, on integrated economic statistics
- System of National Accounts (SNA 2008) and European System of Accounts (ESA 2010) for the main conceptual framework
- International Guidelines on SBR
  - Business Registers Recommendation Manuel of Eurostat (2010)
  - Guidelines for Building Statistical Business Registers in Africa, African Development Bank (2012)

# **Presentations and consultations of the Guidelines**

Presentations and consultations		
23 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers, Washington 2012	Outline of the planned chapters	
Joint UNECE/OECD/Eurostat Expert Group Meeting on Business Registers, Geneva 2013	Presentation of first draft chapters	
24 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers, Vienna 2014	Presentation of the third version of the draft chapters	
Joint UNECE/OECD/Eurostat Expert Group Meeting on Business Registers, Brussels 2015	Presentation of possible follow-up	
25 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers, Tokyo 2016	Presentation of survey results on the use of the guidelines in the countries	

#### **Task Force**

- Task Force members: Austria (chair), Australia, Canada, Columbia, Denmark, Egypt, France, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, South Africa, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom, African Development Bank, Eurostat, OECD and UNSD
- Further contributions from Costa Rica and Malaysia
- UNECE provided the secretariat support
- Editor: Consultant financed by Statistics Canada

# **Structure of the Guidelines (1)**

- Chapter 1 Introduction
- Chapter 2 Roles of SBR
- Chapter 3 Coverage of SBR
- Chapter 4 Units of SBR
- Chapter 5 Characteristics of units
- Chapter 6 Data sources for SBR
- Chapter 7 Maintenance of SBR
- Chapter 8 Survey frame methodology
- Chapter 9 Dissemination
- Chapter 10 Quality of SBR
- Chapter 11 Key considerations in establishing SBR
- Chapter 12 Topics for further work and research

# **Structure of the Guidelines (2)**

Annex A	Characteristics of Units by Unit Type
	(Annex to chapter 5)
Annex B	International Classifications (ISIC Rev.4, Institutional sectors)
Annex C	<b>Examples of Statistical Business Registers</b>
	(Denmark, Costa Rica, Canada, Georgia, Malaysia)
Annex D	Examples Relating to SBR Quality Assurance
	(Italy, Columbia, Netherlands)
Annex E	Additional Concepts and Procedures
	(Italy: Register based census, Calculating a check digit)
Glossary	
References	

## **Chapter 1 – Introduction**

- Definition of an SBR
  - Structured database of economic units, continuously maintained by using administrative and statistical sources and used for statistical purposes
- Uses of an SBR
  - Survey frames, linking sources, consistent population: within an NSI the SBR should be the single central place where statistical units are derived and maintained for economic statistics
- Aims and overview of the Guidelines
- Definition of main terms

# Action points: Chapter 1 – Introduction (1)

- Paragraph needed on importance of SBR for the implementation of SNA 2008
- (para 1.18) additional examples, plus indication of technical requirements to be able to keep all information in the system.
- (para 1.11 to 1.13) Instead of territorial area, we may want to refer to residency and economic territory as defined in the SNA 2008/ BPM6
- 4. Reference to statistics on foreign affiliates
- (para 1.24) Because administrative data may not include all the information you want to be needed, it is still necessary to conduct economic surveys to meet those needs
- 6. (para 1.26) Use of big data that will be a new source of data, need to be studied and analyzed

# **Action points: Chapter 1 – Introduction (2)**

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# Chapter 2 – Roles of the SBR (1)

- SBR plays the role of the backbone in the production of economic statistics
- Provides statistical infrastructure supporting the collection and integration of economic data
- Serves as coordinating tool for production of economic statistics
- The Guidelines distinguishes 8 roles of SBR

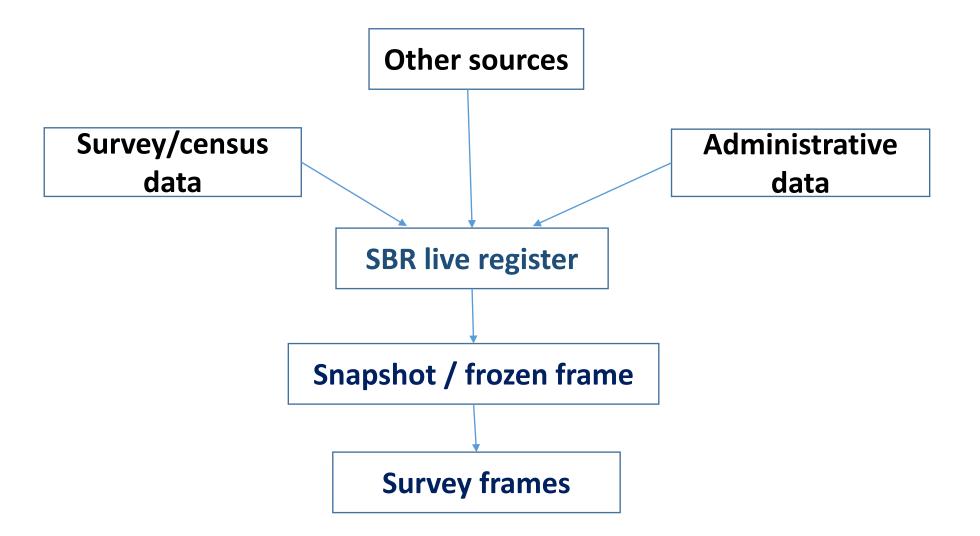
# Roles of the SBR (2)

	Role	Goal
1	Live register	Provide the gateway between data from various input sources and statistical units
2	<b>Register snapshots</b>	Provide populations of statistical units at fixed points in time
3	Survey frame	Provide a set of statistical units for a survey, valid for a specified reference period, with all characteristics required
4	Survey support	Monitor survey response and measure and control response burden
5	Statistics based on SBR	Produce statistics based directly on the SBR

# Roles of the SBR (3)

	Role	Goal
6	Information source	Provide lists of enterprises and their locations possibly other characteristics (depending on national confidentiality rules and legislation)
7	International data exchange	Facilitate coherence in international statistics
8	SBR in moderni- sation of statist. production and services	Promote integration of SBR within the production processes for economic statistics

## **Backbone role of SBR**



# **Action points: Chapter 2 – Roles of the SBR**

- 1. (para 2.7) Can reference be made to experiences in sharing microdata in secure environment?
- 2. Can we indicate a priority ranking of administrative data in their usefulness for SBR?
- 3. Can we use the GSBPM model for the process of creation and maintenance of the SBR, maybe in a separate chapter or as an annex

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# Chapter 3 - Coverage of SBR (1)

#### **Target coverage of SBR**

- In principle all units in the national economy that contribute to GDP
- Target for SBR coverage is the 2008 SNA production boundary (2008 SNA: 6.26)
  - Excludes household activities for production of services for own use, except services provided by owner-occupied dwellings and services produced by employed domestic staff
  - Production activities of all institutional units that have economic production
  - Include both market and non-market producers (Government units and NPISH)

# Chapter 3 - Coverage of SBR (2)

#### Difficult areas to cover

- In practice there are problems in trying to cover
  - Non-market producers
  - Non-observed economy, including informal sector and illegal activities

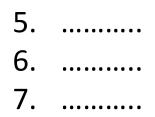
#### Special cases

 The *Guidelines* gives more detailed recommendations on the treatment of government units, corporations, NPIs, self-employed persons, agricultural households/holdings, illegal activities and extraterritorial organisations

## Action points: Chapter 3 - Coverage of SBR (1)

- (Chapter 3) An additional section should be drafted which takes into account the circumstances in developing countries with respect to the coverage of a Statistical Business Register.
- 2. (section 3.2). the concept of "Residency" should be added in this section.
- 3. (paras 3.18 3.27). It is suggested to complement this section with information from the chapter 11, section 11.11, mentioning the relevance to cover the informal activities where this sector is important (i.e. mainly for developing and emerging economies). → chapter 11 just refers to chapter 3
- (para 3.17) Include the usefulness for specifying the companies that use digital platforms (digital economy) in the section of Non-Observed and Observed Economies due to the relevance of this topic.

## Action points: Chapter 3 - Coverage of SBR (2)



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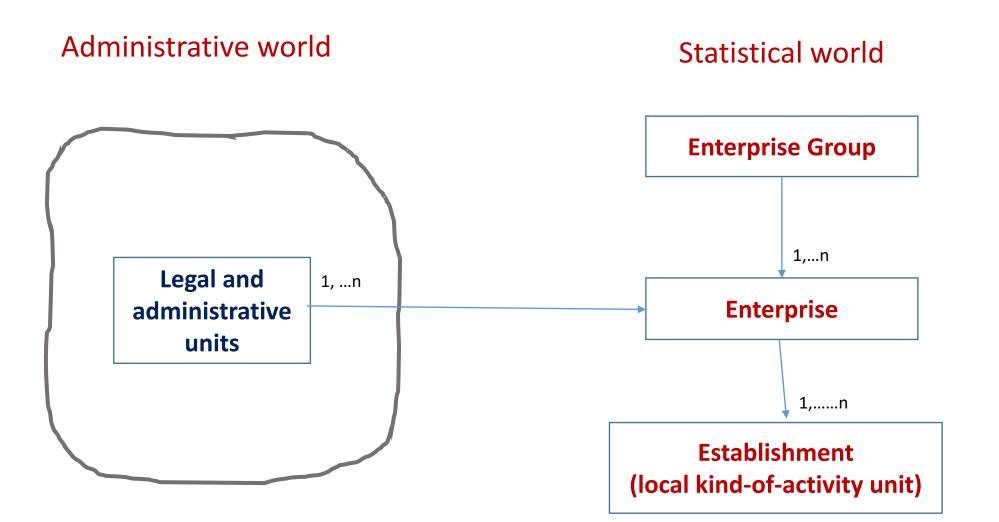
# Chapter 4 – Units of the SBR (1)

- Describes different types of units conceptually and operationally
- Distinguish three groups of units:
  - Statistical units
  - Legal, administrative and operational units
  - Observation and reporting units
- Provides and discusses definitions of 2008 SNA, ISIC Rev 4 and Eurostat
- Recommendations on difficult to measure areas MNEs, government, agriculture, special purpose entities

# Chapter 4 – Units of the SBR (2)

- The main statistical units used internationally are:
  - Enterprise group
  - Enterprise
  - Establishment, also called local kind-of-activity unit (LKAU)
  - Kind-of-activity unit (KAU)
  - Local unit
- For each of these types of units, a set of characteristics is held in the SBR, such as economic activity code, size code, geographic location, date of entry, foreign ownership, and trader or nontrader
- Guidelines recommend that four units enterprise group, enterprise, local unit and legal unit – be maintained in SBRs

## Chapter 4 – Units of the SBR (3)



### Chapter 4 – Units of the SBR (4)

- Enterprise: consists of one or more legal units, in rare cases, part of a legal unit
- Establishment: Each enterprise consists of one or more establishments (local kind-of-activity units)
- Enterprise group comprises one or more enterprises
- not developed in all countries, but increasingly important with globalisation and market concentration
- Multinational enterprise group (MNE) is an enterprise group with operations in more than one country

# Action points: Chapter 4 – Units of the SBR (1)

- (section 4.1) The legal unit definition could be expanded, since this is so important. Could more advice be provided on how to build enterprises from legal units, and in what circumstances the enterprise is not equal to the legal unit?
- 2. (section 4.2) It is mentioned that in a national SBR the delineation of an enterprise is normally restricted to the national territory. We suggest to clearly delineate between the concept of residence and any alternative presentation of statistics.
- 3. (section 4.3) More examples are needed on identifying Enterprise Groups in Practice.
- (para 4.53) The address of a GGH, is also a location for an economic unit (enterprise) to do the operation of itself. Could the address of a GGH always identified an enterprise also? Maybe with the activity of head office.

## Action points: Chapter 4 – Units of the SBR (2)

- 5. (section 4.3.3) The definition of "truncated enterprise group" (the part of a multinational enterprise group that comprises only the legal units resident in the particular country is defined to be a "truncated enterprise group" within that country) seems to refer to the concept of "local enterprise group" as defined in BPM6 4.55-4.56: local (or territory-specific) enterprise group refers to an investor and the legal entities under that investor that are resident in the same economy (see also CDIS Guide, and OECD Benchmark Definition of Foreign Direct Investment). A reference could be made to this term of "local enterprise group" as opposed to the "multinational enterprise group" or "global enterprise group".
- 6. (para 4.83) In International Recommendations for Industrial Statistics, it is mentioned that an ancillary unit which is located in a geographically different location will be treated as an establishment. In Indonesia, we tried to identify ancillary unit besides establishment when we did the 2016 economic census. How do we treat ancillary units in SBR? How to maintain its data? How to utilize the data gathered about the units and what analysis should we make?

# Action points: Chapter 4 – Units of the SBR (3)

- (section 4.10) Examples from developing countries should be added in this part. More examples should be added focusing on local statistical units besides the circumstances of outward foreign affiliates.
- 8. (section 4.10) Updates on SPEs could be given from recent work at IMF and others.
- 9. .... 10. ....
- 11. .....

# **Chapter 5 – Characteristics of units (1)**

#### Identification and contact characteristics

- Type of unit
  - enterprise group, enterprise, establishment
  - local unit, legal unit, administrative unit
- Identification number
  - with no embedded information
  - allows linking to other units in SBR
  - and to administrative registers and other sources
- Contact details
  - name, addresses, telephone numbers...

# Chapter 5 – Characteristics of units (2)

**Demographic characteristics** 

- Date of inclusion in SBR
- Date of commencement of economic activity
- Date of final cessation of economic activity
- Date on which legal unit ceased to exist
- Date of merger, take-over, split or break

# Chapter 5 – Characteristics of units (3)

**Economic/stratification characteristics** 

- Legal form/legal status
- Institutional sector and sub-sector
- Principal economic activity
- Market orientation (market, non-market)
- Turnover
- Number of persons employed

...

## Chapter 5 – Characteristics of units (4)

Links between units in the SBR

Required for establishing and maintaining the SBR

- Administrative units and statistical units
- Enterprise groups and enterprises
- Enterprises and establishments
- Observation units and reporting units...

#### **Chapter 5 – Characteristics of units (5)**

#### Links with other registers

- Ideally link statistical units to administrative and legal units
- Administrative units include VAT units, units in trade registers, units registered to collect and make social security contributions etc.
- Links to units in agricultural registers
- Links to transport registers, health services registers, population registers...

# **Action points: Chapter 5 – Characteristics of units (1)**

 (section 5.2) We suggest defining multinational domestically controlled and multinational foreign controlled. The terms are used in the text, but are not defined.

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#### Chapter 6 – Data sources for the SBR (1)

Distinguishes three groups of data sources

- Administrative sources
- Statistical sources, including feedback from economic surveys, profiling and SBR improvement surveys
- Other sources, for example data from private suppliers, telephone directories, internet

#### Chapter 6 – Data sources for the SBR (2)

#### Administrative sources

- Legal issues and access to administrative data sources
- Cooperation with providers of administrative data
- Advantages, problems and risks
- Monitoring the quality of administrative sources
- Using administrative sources in practice
- Transforming administrative units into statistical units

# Action points: Chapter 6 – Data sources for the SBR (1)

- (chapter 6) One of the data sources still the establishments census. The guideline should deal with that.
- (section 6.1) It would be recommendable to explicitly include the economic census as an example of statistical sources. This comment applies to paragraph 6.8 too.
- (para 6.29) It would be recommendable to include examples where both establishment and enterprises are built as statistical units in the SBR
- 4. (section 6.3) Tax authorities are the ones most reluctant to release individual data in spite of requirements of statistical acts. Must be the case in several countries (how to address this issue?) Secondly, how to ensure common and correct economic classification codes in the data bases of the different data sources. Should 'description of activities' be a must? What is the common practice in countries?

### Action points: Chapter 6 – Data sources for the SBR (2)

- 5. (section 6.3) More should be said about non-tax data sources and their strengths and weaknesses. For example, how complete are utility company lists. It would be good to get some examples for nontax authority data sources. Agree that more advice needed on gaining access to tax data, and also creating regular supply with confidence that supply will be maintained.
- 6. (para 6.58) This is a big deal in many countries, therefore it would be desirable to know experiences of NSI's which have successfully reconciled legislation to allow data sharing for statistical purposes. --> UNECE Generic law
- (section 6.5.2) It would be convenient to include a paragraph mentioning that the countries should analyze the cost/benefit balance in order to make the decision to identify local units or establishments.

# Action points: Chapter 6 – Data sources for the SBR (3)

- 8. (section 6.6.2) What happens in the case where small and medium size units in the SBR are not maintained? The SBR population of small units progressively grows in size where births are introduced via administrative sources and deaths are not removed. This is a reality since due to the lack of resources (when a choice has to made between maintaining large and small units) often the population of small businesses in the SBR is not maintained.
- (section 6.6.2) The role of the economic census is perhaps controversial, but are these more common in developing countries? More needs to be said on these and approached to keeping up to date in the long period between censuses.
- 10. (section 6.6.4) It is suggested to provide a diagram with the profiling steps in order to facilitate its comprehension with examples from several regions and countries.

### Action points: Chapter 6 – Data sources for the SBR (4)

- 11. (section 6.8) Additional explanation and examples are necessary.
- 12. (section 6.9) Country experience needed on agricultural units, particularly when these are mostly small ones and operate in an informal way is difficult to obtain from administrative sources and surveys are costly.
- 13. More context is needed on the cooperation of statistics agencies and public institutions that provide administrative data for preparing the SBR
- 14. Many developing countries do not have a network of administrative registers yet since they do not have a unique public identifier for the administrative units. For this reason, it would be convenient to include a detailed methodology about the actions needed to build this network if the administrative registers are enough good for this goal and how to build an SBR from economic censuses.

#### Action points: Chapter 6 – Data sources for the SBR (5)

15. ....

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#### Chapter 7 - Maintenance of SBR (1)

Maintenance of statistical units and their characteristics

- SBR maintenance strategy
- Recording of demographic events
- Handling of changes in characteristics
- Maintenance procedures
- Treatment of errors

# Chapter 7 - Maintenance of SBR (2)

#### SBR maintenance strategy

- SBR has to be maintained to reflect the continuous changes in the economy
- Requires constant updating of units, links and characteristics
- Strategy should take into account
  - Available data sources
  - Maintenance groups of statistical units for efficiency and cost effectiveness – e.g. resources to update a statistical unit should reflect its importance and impact on published statistics and take the propensity to change into account
  - Time dimension establish updating schedule, timing of updates, need for continuity rules

# Chapter 7 - Maintenance of SBR (3)

#### **Demographic events**

- an event with impact on the existence of statistical units or on links between statistical units, for example

- Deaths and births
- Concentration (merger, take over)
- De-concentration (split-off, break up)
- Define continuity rules for the statistical units in SBR
- An enterprise is considered to *continue* through a demographic event if its production factors continue
- interpreted as at least two of the three characteristics controlling legal unit, economic activity and location remain essentially the same

### **Chapter 7 - Maintenance of SBR (4)**

Handling of changes in stratification characteristics of units

- Immediate update upon changes in an economic/stratification characteristic may results in units flip-flopping across strata when close to boundaries
- increases risk for volatility in survey statistics

#### SBR maintenance procedures

- Apply continuity rules (stability rules) for updating characteristics
- Hold back update until changes have persisted for long enough to be considered permanent

# **Chapter 7 - Maintenance of SBR (5)**

#### **Treatment of errors**

- Errors in identification characteristics
  - should be corrected as soon as observed
- Errors in economic/stratification characteristics:
  - should be corrected subject to stability rules to avoid creating volatility/ inconsistency in survey populations, samples and statistical outputs
- Corrections should have minimal impact on SBR users
- Users should be informed when errors or their correction affect outputs
- Error metadata (type of error, original/new value, dates, sources...) should be recorded

#### **Action points: Chapter 7 - Maintenance of SBR**

- 1. (para 7.9) Include the economic census as an additional source of information.
- 2. (para 7.19) Different SBR updating scenarios could be presented showing varying periodicities that depend upon the statistical infrastructure, the availability and quality of administrative and statistical sources, objectives and resources of the countries.

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# Chapter 8 – Survey frame methodology (1)

Explains the backbone role of an SBR for economic surveys: survey frame methodology; snapshots and frozen frames; coverage and other frame errors

- How to produce survey frames
  - Identify concepts (1.4)
  - Design outputs (2.1)
  - Design frame and sample (2.4)
  - Design collection (2.3)

Specify needs	Design	Build	Collect	Process	Analyse	Disseminate	Evaluate
1.1	2.1	3.1	4.1	5.1	6.1	7.1	8.1
Identify needs	Design outputs	Build collection	Select frame	Integrate data	Prepare draft	Update output	Gather
		instrument	and sample		outputs	systems	evaluation inputs
1.2	2.2	3.2	4.2	5.2	6.2	7.2	8.2
Consult and confirm needs	Design variable	Build or	Set up	Classify and	Variable	Produce	Conduct
commeccus	descriptions	enhance	collection	code	outputs	dissemination products	evaluation
		process				products	
		components					
1.3	2.3	3.3	4.3	5.3	6.3	7.3	8.3
Establish	Design	Configure	Run collection	Review and	Scrutinise and	Manage release	Agree on action
output	collection	work flows		validate	explain outputs	of	plan
objectives						dissemination products	
1.4	2.4	3.4	4.4	5.4	6.4	7.4	······································
Identify	Design frame	Test	Finalise	Edit and impute	Apply disclosure	Promote	
concepts	and sample	production	collection		control	dissemination products	
		system					
1.5	2.5	3.5		5.5	6.5	7.5	
Check data	Design	Test		Derive new	Finalise outputs	Manage user	
availability	processing and analysis	statistical		variables and statistical units		support	
		business					
		process					ļ
1.6	2.6	3.6		5.6			
Prepare	Design production	Finalise		Calculate weights			
business	systems and	production		weights			
case	workflow	system					
				5.7			
				Calculate			
				aggregates 5.8			
				Finalise data			
				files			

### **Action points: Chapter 8 – Survey frame methodology**

1. (para 9.27) The Mexican example of DENUE will be updated since RENEM (the Mexican SBR) was created in 2015, now DENUE is the public part of RENEM

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# **Chapter 9 – Dissemination (1)**

#### Dissemination of economic statistics

- Direct production of economic statistics from the SBR if SBR quality is sufficient
- Output should satisfy the same conditions as for business surveys in terms of quality
- Dissemination of business demography statistics
- Growing demand for entrepreneurship and business dynamics statistics
- Micro-data linking

### **Chapter 9 – Dissemination (2)**

Dissemination of micro-data (individual data)

- Confidentiality restrictions
- Possible access for researchers under certain conditions
- Publication of selected micro-data, such as name and address, legal status, economic activity
- In all cases appropriate legal basis

#### **Action points: Chapter 9 – Dissemination**

None??

# Chapter 10 – Quality of SBR (1)

SBR quality dimensions

Quality= the degree to which SBR meets user needs

- Dimensions: relevance, accuracy, timeliness, punctuality, accessibility, comparability, coherence
- Costs (including response burden) and cost-efficiency needs to be taken into account

# Chapter 10 – Quality of SBR (2)

#### **Quality actions**

- Quality policy/framework
  - How and when to initiate quality improvements
  - How to inform users about quality and quality problems
- Quality assessment methods
- Quality indicators
  - Establish SBR quality indicators
  - Measure quality of inputs, processes and outputs

#### Action points: Chapter 10 – Quality of SBR

1. (section 10.4) Further clarification of the hyper dimension topic would be necessary in order to improve the in-depth understanding about the implementation of quality assurance measures.

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# Chapter 11 – Key considerations in establishing an SBR (1)

Guidance on the planning, governance, organisational, legal and technical (IT systems) factors for the establishment or redesign/re-engineering an SBR

- User needs, longer term scoping, modular approach
- Legislative framework, resources, organisational setting, governance, staff training
- IT issues (software development, solution architecture, database management)
- Data retention

# Action points: Chapter 11 – Key considerations in establishing an SBR (1)

- 1. Proposal to use of **SDMX** for Business Registers.
- 2. Further explanations about the creation and use of standard templates and software programs to automate SBR information extraction would be of great help.
- 3. It would be desirable (and great!) establishing basic characteristics to create an ID at internal level to facilitate the identification of economic units for statistical purposes (taking into account the issues and practices in several countries worldwide) the identification number must keep homogeneity at the international level according to the unit classification mentioned in this chapter.

# **Action points: Chapter 11 – Key considerations in** establishing an SBR (2)

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# Chapter 12 – Topics for further work and research (1)

Grouped into eight categories:

#### **Statistical Units and Profiling**

Statistical unit enterprise and enterprise groups, experiences in profiling, best practices in coding, etc.

#### SBR as a Backbone of Economic Statistics

Multi-source datasets, data warehouse, GSBPM and GSIM, efficient management strategies, balancing growing user demands, etc.

#### Use of Administrative Data Sources

Sharing best practices in cooperation with administrative registers, quality, units in administrative registers, conflicting information, register based economic census, etc.

# Chapter 12 – Topics for further work and research (2)

#### Use of new data sources

Experience in new data sources, including big data, electronic collection methods, etc.

#### International trade and Economic Globalisation

SBR requirements, new global production arrangements (e.g. factoryless goods producers), micro-data linking, supra-national SBR, etc.

#### **Development of New Statistics**

SBR as part of a set of interrelated/linked statistical registers, statistical units in business demography, geocoding in the SBR, etc.

# Chapter 12 – Topics for further work and research (3)

#### Methodological Developments

Database software for SBR, including software services for SBR maintenance, methodology, input data validation, matching methodology, identifiers, etc.

#### **International Comparability**

Covers all aspects that make SBRs more internationally comparable

# Action points: Chapter 12 – Topics for further work and research

 (para 12.2) The survey conducted by Facebook, the World Bank and the OECD, entitled Future Business Survey (<u>https://eu.futureofbusinesssurvey.org</u>), could be considered in the research agenda. It analyzes Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the digital commerce environment. This survey generates tools that are useful, not only for the SBR but also for the creation and providing elements to new indicators such as those related to digital commerce.

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# Thank you very much for your attention!

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