

**Statistics of International Trade in Services:
Challenges and Good Practices
Workshop for the Latin American and the
Caribbean countries
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1-4 December 2009**

Claudia de Camino

Statistics and Economic Projections Division



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RECOMMENDATIONS

Workshop on Statistics of International Trade in Services

13 – 16 September 2005, Panama City

Recommendation 1: Promoting Awareness

Country progresses

(Mexico: Mexico DF, 30-31 October 2008 PROMEXICO,
Chile: Santiago, 15-16 October 2008, Banco Central,
ALADI, Santiago, 11-14 November 2008, etc.)

Recommendation 2: Harmonizing Statistics

MBP5

MSITS

EBOPS

→ more countries have implemented these guidelines

Nevertheless, there are still weaknesses in:

Partner country data, Mode of supply, FATS and Classification issues



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Recommendation 3: Fostering Cooperation

Many countries have formal or informal interinstitutional platforms

Recommendation 4: Announcing Panama's Statistical Training Center (STC)

This project has not been implemented by the statistical office of the Contraloría General de la República de Panamá



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Recommendation 5: Mandatory Responses

Progresses in the legal framework

Now, more than half of the countries of the region have a legal framework

Recommendation 6: Working together

Activities with the participation of countries, subregional and international organizations have been organized



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Topics of this workshop:

business-register

importance of creation and maintenance, cross-checking with other sources such as tax and customs records, advantage of unique tax, identification numbers etc.

surveys

types of surveys, sampling methods, periodicity, automated data entry, training of interviewers, creation of inventory of surveys, etc.

There are progresses in the region, nevertheless budget and human resources constraints make difficult to create and update business registers and to develop better and more surveys

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Topics of this workshop:

sources of information

use of different sources as surveys and foreign exchange records, quality of sources, use of credit card information for travel



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Special topics regarding to classification and compilation

- **second dwellings abroad, time shares**
- **call centers**
- **royalties and franchise fees**
- **gambling**
- **insurance services**
- **link between FATS statistics and BOP trade in services**



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