Harmonization of Telecommunication/ICT Indicators with International Standards
ITU Regional Workshop
Nakhichevan, 24-26 April 2013

Conclusions and recommendations

ICT Data and Statistics Division
BDT/ ITU

Workshop objectives

- Information sharing/training on international standards and methodologies on ICT measurement
  - ➢ Telecommunication/ICT indicators
  - ➢ ICT statistics in household surveys
  - ➢ ICT statistics in business surveys
  - ➢ Indicators for measuring the WSIS achievements

- Stocktaking of existing sources of ICT indicators and identification of data gaps and measurement challenges in CIS countries

- Assessment of priority data needs for policy making in CIS countries

- Assessment of national coordination mechanisms on ICT statistics in CIS countries

- Formulation of conclusions and recommendations

Telecommunication administrative data

- Overall data availability:

  - ➢ High response rate to ITU questionnaires: 83% for the Short Questionnaire 2013, 75% Long Questionnaire 2012 and 63% price data questionnaire 2012. More than half of the indicators are provided.

- Recommendations:

  - ➢ Collect data on fixed (wired)-broadband by speed (only 1/3 of countries in the region submitted in 2012)

  - ➢ Collect data for the new data traffic indicators (new in 2013 ITU LQ):
    - Fixed (wired)- broadband Internet traffic (exabytes)
    - Mobile-broadband Internet traffic (inside country)
    - Mobile-broadband Internet traffic (outside, roaming out)

Telecommunication administrative data

- Issues with indicators:

  - ➤ Difficulties in accurately reporting <u>active</u> mobile-broadband subscriptions.
  - ➤ In some cases, not clear the scope of investment and revenue data reported.
  - ➤ Confusion of terms, e.g. ~~subscribers~~ subscriptions

- Recommendations:

  - ➤ Use ITU Handbook for the Collection of Administrative Data on Telecommunications/ICT (available in Russian) as a basis for the definition, terms and data collection
  - ➤ Work with operators to ensure compliance with activity criteria in the reporting of active mobile-broadband data
  - ➤ Add notes in the reporting of revenue and investment data clarifying the scope

Telecommunication administrative data

- Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators:

  - Low participation of CIS countries in the main ITU forum of discussion of administrative indicators.

- Recommendation:

  - Register to the EGTI online forum and <u>actively</u> participate in the discussions

  - Examples of issues raised in this workshop that could be discussed in the EGTI:
    - How to measure Internet subscriptions for businesses
    - How to consider WiFi <u>subscriptions </u>other than hotspots

Household ICT statistics

- Overall:
  - ➢ Response rate to ITU HH long questionnaire 2012 was 36% and to HH short questionnaire 2013 45%
  - ➢ It is likely that the access indicators (HH1 to HH4 and HH6) are available on a yearly basis but they are not reported/disseminated
  - ➢ The individual usage indicators are not widely available

- Main data sources and surveys: standalone ICT surveys, multi-purpose HH surveys – unknown in several countries

- Main data gaps: HH6 (households with computers) and HH7 (Internet users) only collected by 3 countries; most of the ICT usage indicators are not available

Household ICT statistics

- Recommendations:
  - ➤ Ministries, NRAs and NSOs should coordinate in terms of ICT measurement (see national coordination)

  - ➤ NSOs should report ICT-related statistics regularly based on the ITU *Questionnaire on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Access and Use by Households and Individuals* that is sent to the focal point in the NSO every year.
    - ➤ Complete the questionnaire for all years where information is available for at least one of the ICT core indicators.

  - ➤ A standalone ICT household survey could be conducted every two years. In between, questions on the use of Internet, and household access to Internet and computer should be added to existing regular national households surveys, such as labour force surveys, household income expenditure surveys.

Household ICT statistics

- Recommendations (cont):
  - ➢ The ITU *Manual for Measuring ICT Access and Use by Households and Individuals* (available in Russian language) should be used as the main reference document for defining and collecting ICT household statistics (keeping in mind that it is currently under revision)

  - ➢ Experts from countries are encouraged to join the ITU Expert Group on Household indicators (EGH) and its online discussion forum (currently only 3 CIS countries are members)

  - ➢ ITU should provide further assistance to countries in the collection of household ICT statistics

Statistics on business use of ICT and the ICT sector

- Overall data availability and data gaps:
  - Data available on 6 of the 12 CIS countries
  - Few business ICT surveys from the region cover indicators on e-commerce
  - Trade in goods data available for 9 of the 12 CIS countries
  - ICT sector data available for 4 CIS countries
- Main data sources and surveys:
  - Greater reliance on censuses rather than ICT surveys
  - National accounts statistics for the ICT sector

Statistics on business use of ICT and the ICT sector

- Recommendations:

  - ➢ Identify the national institution(s) in charge of collecting information economy statistics (business use and ICT sector) and share with UNCTAD contact details and statistics published (emeasurement@unctad.org)

  - ➢ Ensure comparability of indicators collected with the methodology developed in the *UNCTAD Manual on the Production of Statistics on the Information Economy, 2009 Revised Edition*

  - ➢ Include ICT questions in existing business surveys

  - ➢ UNCTAD to start collecting data using the ISIC Rev.4. classification

Statistics on business use of ICT and the ICT sector

- Recommendations (cont):

  - ➤ Identify the challenges faced in the country with regards to measuring the information economy

  - ➤ UNCTAD should provide further assistance on measuring the information economy

  - ➤ A regional training of statisticians for the CIS countries can help raise the capacity of national statistical systems from the region by sharing experiences, discussing common challenges and building a regional network of experts on information economy statistics

International Development Targets

	Data			Recommendations
	Availability	Sources	Gaps	
MDGs ------ Broadband Commission targets	Fair	1) ICT HH surveys 2) Operators	Indicators on households with Internet and Internet users	• Data included in ITU questionnaires => Report data to ITU
WSIS targets	Unknown	1) Same as above + 2) Sector ministries + 2) NSOs	Targets on: Schools R&D Libraries, museums Content	• Coordinate with sector ministries and NSOs to identify available data and reply to Partnership July 2013 WSIS questionnaire
Use Partnership document *Measuring the WSIS Targets – a statistical framework*				

National coordination

- ICT data collection and dissemination involves a number of different stakeholders at the national level

- Coordination among ICT Ministries, NRAs and NSOs should be enhanced in the region in order to improve the ICT data production and dissemination

- A national coordination mechanism should be established in all countries of the region (e.g. inter-agency committee), which brings together regularly all stakeholders involved in ICT statistics (ICT Ministries, sector Ministries, regulators (NRAs), NSOs, data users), to discuss data priorities based on policy needs, and manage and harmonize data production and dissemination

Resources

- ITU statistics, data collection and questionnaires: http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/
- Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development and WSIS Statistical framework: http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/partnership/index.html and http://measuring-ict.unctad.org
- ITU Handbook, Manual and Expert Groups: http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/definitions/
- UNCTAD Manual and questionnaires: http://measuring-ict.unctad.org
- Information Economy data: http://unctadstat.unctad.org