

Measuring the Information Economy – *What's the role of ICT in promoting innovation?*

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Thematic workshop on “Measuring the Information Society: Challenges and Trends”, organized by the Information Technology Organization of Iran, IT Strategic Planning and Monitoring Center/Data Processing Company (Parvaresh Dadeha), I. R. IRAN

**WSIS Forum 2015
Geneva, Switzerland
25 May 2015**

(1)

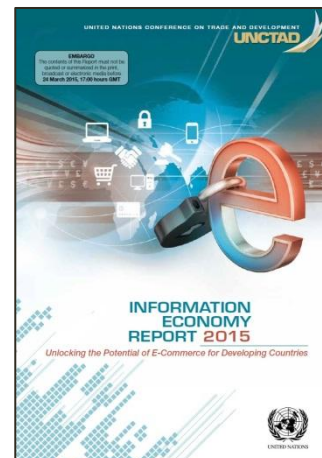


UNCTAD Work on ICT4D

Three pillars

1. Research and analysis

- ✓ Information Economy Report
- ✓ Stand alone studies



2. Consensus-building and collaboration

- Intergovernmental meetings
- WSIS
- Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development



3. Technical assistance

- ✓ **Measuring the information economy**
- ✓ Reviewing national ICT policies
- ✓ Strengthening cyberlaw frameworks



Collaboration within UN system and beyond

❑ UN Group on the Information Society (UNGIS)

- UNCTAD Vice-chair
- 30 member organizations



❑ Co-organizer of the annual WSIS Forum/WSIS+10 Review

- Lead facilitator of Action Line C7 on **E-business**

❑ Secretariat of the CSTD

- Follow-up to the WSIS



❑ Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development

- Member of Steering Committee
- Responsible for information economy indicators



Core list of ICT indicators



- ICT infrastructure and access (10 indicators); (ITU)
- ICT access/use by households and individuals (12); (ITU)
- ICT access and use by enterprises (12); (UNCTAD)
- ICT sector and trade in ICT goods (4); (UNCTAD)
- ICT in education (8); (UIS)
- ICT in government (7) (UNECA)

- Definitions, standards, model questions
- Endorsed by UN Statistical Commission
- Continuously revised and extended



UNCTAD - Information Economy indicators (1)

□ Use of ICT in business and by business employees

- ✓ B1 Proportion of businesses using computers
- ✓ B2 Proportion of persons employed routinely using computers
- ✓ B3 Proportion of businesses using the Internet
- ✓ B4 Proportion of persons employed routinely using the Internet
- ✓ B5 Proportion of businesses with a Web presence
- ✓ B6 Proportion of businesses with an Intranet
- ✓ B7 Proportion of businesses receiving orders over the Internet
- ✓ B8 Proportion of businesses placing orders over the Internet
- ✓ B9 Proportion of businesses using the Internet by type of access
- ✓ B10 Proportion of businesses with a local area network (LAN)
- ✓ B11 Proportion of businesses with an Extranet
- ✓ B12 Proportion of businesses using the Internet by type of activity



UNCTAD - Information Economy indicators (2)

ICT sector and trade in ICT goods

- ✓ ICT1 Proportion of total business sector workforce involved in the ICT sector
- ✓ ICT2 ICT sector share of gross value added
- ✓ ICT3 ICT goods imports as a percentage of total imports
- ✓ ICT4 ICT goods exports as a percentage of total exports

UNCTAD data available at unctadstat.unctad.org

Annual survey sent to all national statistical offices, questionnaire at measuring-ict.unctad.org

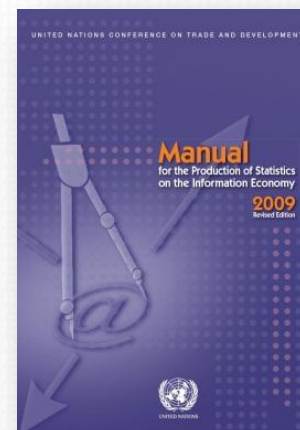


UNCTAD Capacity Building on Measuring the information economy

Objective: Boost the capacity of national statistical systems to produce internationally comparable ICT indicators

Technical assistance

- ✓ Advisory missions
- ✓ Training courses and material
- ✓ Training of trainers
- ✓ Other technical workshops



UNCTAD Manual available in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Russian, Portuguese

Current support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)



UNCTAD training activities ...

Training courses already implemented

✓ Anglophone Africa

- Addis Ababa 2009

✓ Francophone Africa

- Rabat 2009

- Addis Ababa 2010

✓ Arab-speaking countries (including in Africa)

- Amman 2011 (with UNESCWA)

✓ Lusophone Africa

- Maputo 2013 (with African Centre of Statistics of UNECA)

Further training in 2015 (Training for Trainers in Africa, regional training in Anglophone Caribbean)

Advisory services and capacity building upon request

✓ Country workshop in Ethiopia 2014

✓ Morocco request for 2015

Task Group on Measuring ICT and Gender (TGG)

❑ **To introduce the gender dimension in current and possible future ICT indicators**

❑ **Members:** ILO, ITU, UIS, UNCTAD, ESCAP, ESCWA, WISAT, Web Foundation, RIA, LirneAsia

❑ **Activities and current status:**

- Phase 1 - *Measuring Gender and ICT: An Assessment*, identified priority measurement areas and made recommendations
- Phase 2 - UNCTAD-ILO-ITU study on ICT-related employment, available data and sources (enterprise and household/labour force surveys)

❑ **Next steps:**

- Development of methodological aspects - by measurement area, in consultation with national experts (ICT household access & individual ICT use, ICT-related employment, ICT business use & entrepreneurship, ICT in education, e-government)

Task Group on Measuring **Trade** in ICT Services and ICT-enabled Services (TGServ)

- ❑ **To suggest feasible indicators and make practical proposals on how to collect the data**
- ❑ **Members:** ITU, UNCTAD, WTO, OECD, UNSD, World Bank, ESCWA
- ❑ **Activities and current status:**
 - Phase 1 - developed a draft taxonomy of ICT services and ICT-enabled services, feedback from various experts
 - Phase 2 - drafted technical note (unpublished) with explanation of taxonomy, recommendations on data collection methods, and model survey questions
- ❑ **Next steps:**
 - Publish and disseminate technical note, explore pilot countries for data gathering (interested? emeasurement@unctad.org), presentation at UN Statistical Commission



Current challenges

- ❑ Rapidly evolving ICT sector, cross-cutting – need to continuously improve and update the indicators
- ❑ Lack of funding for ICT surveys
- ❑ Many ICT national policies and strategies in course of implementation, but often no official ICT statistics
- ❑ Coordination of the data collection between national agencies
- ❑ ICT incorporation into national statistical work plans
- ❑ Data availability particularly low in poor countries



Current challenges

- ❑ Attention to ICT measurement in setting and monitoring development goals
- ❑ Information economy indicators could be relevant to SDGs 5, 8, 9 and 17.
- ❑ The Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development session on “ICT Indicators for Monitoring the SDGs”, *Thursday 28 May, 16:45, room M, ITU Montbrillant*





Thank you for your attention!

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