

A light blue world map is centered in the background of the slide. The map shows the outlines of continents and is rendered in a slightly darker shade of blue than the background.

OECD-Eurostat 2002 Inquiry on National Collection of Services Producer Prices

(Preliminary Report)

Bill Cave

OECD Statistics Directorate

Background

- Continuing increase in importance of service activities
- Long OECD interest in how countries measure and deflate services output
- Support Voorburg Group PPI work
- Inform work of OECD-Eurostat Task Force
- An information exchange resource for countries
- Annual survey began in 1997

The 2002 Inquiry

- Consultation with Eurostat on questions
- Questionnaire sent on 12 July to 46 countries
- Asking whether service PPIs compiled
- Information requested:
 - new price surveys since July 2001
 - future plans
 - discontinued surveys
 - details of service PPI publication
 - methodological documentation
 - use as deflators in national accounts
 - contact name
 - comments on 2001 report

2002 Results

- Eurostat participation increased level of interest especially in Europe
- Information received from 26 countries in 2002
 - 24 directly
 - 2 more which sent regular data to OECD
- Cumulative total of 34 countries have replied in 6 years
- 20 countries collect some services PPIs or ‘corporate prices’ (One new one CH)
- 3 new respondents this year Bulgaria, Estonia, Lithuania do not collect
 - But wish to be kept informed

2002 results II

Most popular services for PPI compilation

Telecoms (ISIC 642) 16 countries

Hotels (551) 15

Sea and air transport (611&621) 12

Road Freight (6023) 11

Railways (601) 11

Accounting (7412) 11

Architecture and Engineering services (7421) 11

- Data collection evenly split between M and Q (Very few A or 6M)

2002 results: New surveys

New surveys since July 2001 or planned to start in 2002

- 34 new surveys by 8 countries
- Slightly up on 2001
 - Motor trades & retail 3
 - Hotels 3
 - Road freight 1
 - Telecoms 4
 - Rental of machinery 2
 - Computer services 11
 - Legal services 2
 - Market research 1
 - Engineering serv 3
 - Advertising 1
 - Labour provision 1
 - TV broadcasting 1

Other results

- Products: 16 countries have provided information on products priced
 - CPC framework in table 3
 - But few countries use CPC directly so many non-CPC descriptions are provided
 - Useful in summarising what is being priced
- 11 responded to question on deflators (see table 6)
- Well-established series are nearly always used as deflators of output
- Expansion of data publication details in report
- OECD has received a range of national methodological reports which are mentioned in the report and can be shared on request

Some conclusions and questions

- Service PPI rate of progress increased slightly since July 2001
- Some more countries thinking about starting this work
- Nonetheless progress is slow
 - Conceptual basis problems
 - High level of development work needed
 - Need to pass quality tests
- Telecoms, software, hotels, transport and business services seem to enjoy some priority
- Financial services are difficult
- Does the Group wish this survey to continue?
- What other information is needed?