

**OECD Activity Report for the  
VOORBURG GROUP MEETING  
on  
SERVICE STATISTICS**

INE Madrid 18-22



**Summary report on recent OECD services statistics activity.**

This note gives a brief outline of *some* of the recent activity related to service industries in OECD Statistics Directorate.

**International Trade in Services**

**Manual on International Trade in Services**

OECD convenes an inter-agency task force (UN, WTO, IMF, Eurostat, UNCTAD and others as necessary), which is charged with producing a Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services (MSITS). MSITS seeks to meet the needs of WTO, the GATS negotiators, Government and business for data on trade in services. A draft edition was circulated world-wide to all national and international statistical agencies and central banks for comment at the end of 1999. A revised draft of the manual was released in June 2000 and presented to a UN Expert Group, which met in July 2000 in New York. They supported the Manual's recommendations, while requesting some changes in the text to ensure that further development work and compilation guidance is addressed post-publication. The manual will be finalised in the autumn, so it can be translated into UN languages to be presented to the UN Statistical Committee beginning of 2001 for approval. OECD, in discussion with Member countries and Eurostat, intends to begin the process of discussing data collection according to the Manual in 2000.

MSITS brings together balance of payments type trade in services between residents and non-residents and foreign affiliate trade in services i.e. the commercial presence mode of trading in services. It also proposes a simplified method to allocate service provision according to the GATS modes of supply. It is based on extensions to existing standards, particularly BPM5 and is compatible with the proposed OECD Globalisation Manual. A correspondence with CPC v 1.0 is made as far as possible for BOP services, given their BPM 5 structure. FATS activity is structured by ISIC rev 3 categories. Although no framework is proposed that brings together fully BOP trade and domestic production, nonetheless from now on the two activities will be compared in the same picture of trade in services, which will encourage the development of a unified framework at a later stage.

### **Implementation of OECD-Eurostat classification for international trade in services.**

OECD prepared jointly with Eurostat, during summer 2000, the second edition of the joint international trade in services statistical publication (release planned by end September). These statistics were reported according to the OECD-Eurostat classification (disaggregation of BPM5's classification for services), and data were collected according to a more detailed list of activities than in the first edition. The publication is "OECD Statistics on International Trade in Services"

### **Collection of Structural Industry Data on Services**

**ISIS/STAN.** For the first time in 1999 OECD requested and collected detailed structural business survey statistics across the service sector as a part of its annual industry questionnaire ISIS. This data was published at the end of 1999 for 10 OECD Member countries with the annual Industrial Structure Statistics data (the database will be named Structural Statistics on Industry and Services from 2000). Service sector statistics were requested for the second time in 2000 with the aim to increase the number of countries and variables covered. The data should be published at the end of the year. This data feeds into the analytical database STAN. Initial results were patchy but the commitment is there to develop, collect, analyse and publish such data.

### **IIA (Indicators of Industrial Activity)**

For the first time in 2000 OECD collected detailed statistics (output, deliveries, orders, producer prices and employment ) providing a view of the most recent short-term economic development in the service sector, in addition to similar data already collected and published for manufacturing industries (IIA).

### **National Accounts/Value-added and employment data by activity**

OECD released in spring 2000 a new edition of its publication on detailed services value-added and employment by activity (national accounts data). For many countries the SNA 1993 was implemented in this new edition. Data are normally published for standard rather broad industry categories and this exercise seeks to supplement these with the most detailed activity breakdowns that countries have for services. This publication is intended to present information on trends in the services sector and to

help statisticians improve the comparability of these statistics. OECD is currently updating this database and the next publication is due by the end of the year.

### **Service Prices**

Following the OECD Voorburg Group 1999 paper reporting on an updated survey of activity in countries on collection and measurement of prices of services to enterprises, the OECD prepared a provisional report on national collection of services producer prices. OECD has created a page on OECD's web site in order to promote services PPI development work and facilitate information exchange about these activities (<http://www.oecd.org/std/indserv/index.htm>, then select "Services PPIs").

This page currently provides the report mentioned above, links to relevant sites, names and contact details of specialists and news on international and national activities.

OECD is keen to encourage further progress in this area to develop appropriate deflators of service industry output and to widen the range of country involvement in this work.

### **Tourism Statistics (DSTI/STD)**

OECD, with the World Tourism Organisation, Eurostat and the UN have developed a unified methodological guide for tourism satellite accounts, which will be published in a few months. OECD has also published an employment module for tourism.

### **Productivity Manual**

Work is proceeding on a draft Productivity Manual.

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