



31st Voorburg Group Meeting Zagreb, Croatia

Introductions & Agenda Overview

Presented by

David Friedman and Jakob Kalko

Voorburg Group Co-Chairs

19 September 2016

Introductions

- 31st meeting of the Voorburg Group – many thanks to our hosts, the Croatian Bureau of Statistics
- Once again, we have a full agenda – all of you have a part to play and we can't say it enough– ***it is the members of the VG who make it successful!!***

VG Ground Rules

- VG meetings are an open forum for interaction and discussion; papers/presentations meant to stimulate discussion
- We are here to learn from each other at some level and to make contributions to our development of BEST PRACTICES – we believe the best way to learn is to observe, participate, and exchange with one another

VG Ground Rules (continued)

- Value and respect for contributions of all members of VG; differences of opinion & critiques are welcome but should always be given in a constructive and respectful manner
- Expectation that papers and/or presentations are representative of your country's practices and/or methodological approach (with exception of Sector Papers of course which represent the consensus of the Voorburg Group) – remember that your contributions live on and remain accessible on the VG website

Introductions of meeting participants

We will now go around the room and ask each of you to introduce yourselves:

- Your name, your organization, and your current role
- How long you have been a member of the VG (welcome to all of our new members!)
- The most important thing you want to get out of this year's meeting

Agenda components

- Country progress reports (this morning)
- Sector Papers (this morning)
 - Present key methodological guidelines for development and product of service sector/industry covered
 - Intended as reference material
 - Represent culmination of individual country industry papers/presentations (“mini-presentations”) done at last year’s meeting in Sydney
 - Organization of Conventions and Trade Shows
 - Veterinary Activities
 - Issue Paper: Office Administration and Support Activities

Agenda components (continued)

- Country industry papers/presentations (“Mini-presentations”)
 - Covers given industry or parts of an industry
 - Typically have 3 papers/presenters for turnover/output and 3 for SPPIs for each industry/sector covered; last year recognized we are getting to industries that are “less prominent” and thus may not be able to have as many as six country papers/presentations
- Two industries and/or industry groups on agenda this year (both on Tuesday)
 - **Activities auxiliary to financial services, except insurance and pension funding (ISIC 66.1)**
 - **Motion picture, video and television program production, sound recording and music publishing activities (ISIC 59.1 and 59.2)**

Agenda components (continued)

- Cross-cutting Topics
 - Issues/practices that cut across industries of interest to VG members
 - Should be related in some respect to VG mandate
 - Focus on lessons learned
 - Draft Guidance Papers for discussion this year (from topics discussed at last year's meeting)
 - Bundling of services (Monday)
 - Industry/Product (Monday)
 - Presentations on new topics:
 - SPPI, time based methods and the challenge of productivity (Monday)
 - Experiences in starting measurement of services (Tuesday)

Agenda components (continued)

- Poster Session – Thursday morning
 - Second year we are doing this – follow-up on last year’s successful first try!
 - Contributors from 8 NSOs
 - Dealing with two general themes:
 - Initialization
 - Alternative data
 - Will begin at 10 am – later start on Thursday for most members except Bureau which will meet at 9 am
 - Session leaders will get together with presenters to review logistics

Agenda components (continued)

- **Special sessions on proposed Voorburg Group Strategic Plan**
 - Follow-up to last year's session on Future of the VG
 - *We will start Tuesday morning* with presentation and discussion of draft Plan document sent out to all meeting participants on 11 September.
 - *Thursday afternoon* will have another session to review revisions from Tuesday and/or resolve any outstanding issues
 - Finalize next steps at start of Friday morning planning session

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ALL MEMBERS SHOULD READ THE PAPER SENT OUT 11 SEPTEMBER/POSTED ON THE MEETING WEBSITE PRIOR TO THE START OF TUESDAY'S SESSION AT 9 AM – THANK YOU!

Agenda components (continued)

- Country Day is Wednesday – presentation from CBS, field trip, gala dinner
- Session on results of Task Force on revised Content Development Framework, i.e. CDF and next steps (Thursday afternoon)
- Session on results of Task Force on updates to Thesaurus & Glossary (Friday morning)
- Friday morning planning session; if needed, will also use Friday morning to deal with any unfinished business from previous days
- **AND OF COURSE THERE WILL BE BREAKS AND DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM OUR HOSTS!!!**

Future agendas: Ideas for Consideration

- While we will specifically deal with the future of VG/Strategic Plans starting tomorrow, please keep in mind the following questions as move through this week's regular agenda in preparation for Friday's planning session:
 - What industries/sectors should we study next; are there ones for which we have already done sector papers for which "updates" are needed?
 - Potential for new cross-cutting issues
 - What are your needs or expectations from the VG – see next slide?
- Don't hesitate to talk to Jakob or David or any other members of your VG Bureau!

Questions from 8 September email for meeting participants

- What issues are you facing in your turnover and/or prices programs? Examples of issues may be changes in the statistical unit of measure, specific challenges related to the use of administrative data, global enterprises, growth and measurement of e-commerce, etc.?
- Are there specific areas for which you feel there is a need for international collaboration and guidance (such as quality indicators or evaluation of fitness for use)?

Questions from 8 September email for meeting participants (continued)

- Are there specific areas in which your statistical office seems to be blazing a new trail that you would like to share with the Voorburg Group at future meetings? If so, what would you like to contribute?
- If you are currently working on development of turnover or SPPI statistics, are you encountering any difficulties in specific service industries despite potential guidance from Voorburg Group sector papers or the OECD-Eurostat Methodological Guide for SPPIs?

THANK YOU TO ALL VG MEMBERS &
ESPECIALLY TO OUR HOST THIS YEAR,
CROATIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS