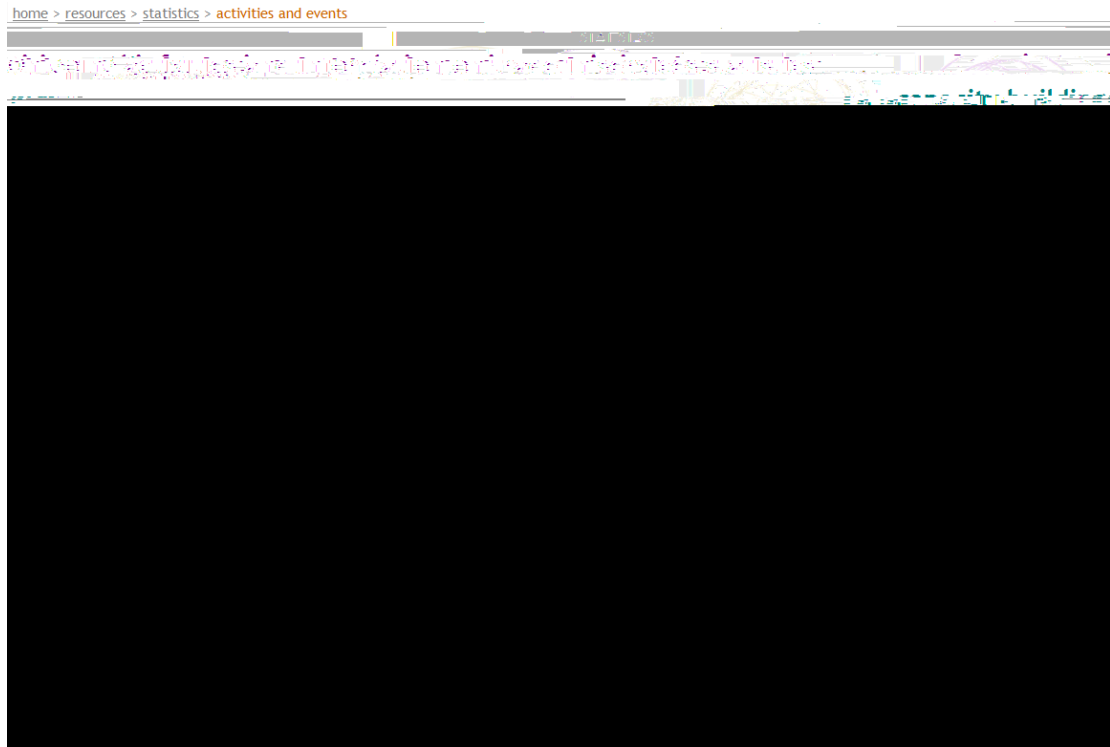


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Web page on trade in services statistics technical assistance activities



4 WTO TRAINING MODULE ON "MEASURING TRADE IN SERVICES"

4.1. The French and Spanish versions of the WTO Secretariat training module on measuring trade in services were recently added to relevant pages to complement the English version which has been available for almost 10 years (latest edition dates October 2010,

to secure funds for the French version. Given that the original version will be in English, the funds will also cover the English version. The WTO Secretariat investigated the possibility of obtaining funds to eventually complement those needed for the English version, and also possibilities for developing a Spanish version. Finally the International Trade Centre also proposed to provide some financing.

5.3. The forthcoming compiler's guide developed to accompany the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services 2010 edition (MSITS 2010) and the IMF's 6th edition of the Balance of Payments Manual (BPM6) compilation guide will form the basis for developing the e-learning material. As a starting point the WTO Secretariat will share its material with partner agencies in order to identify what could be used or amended, as well as identify what would need to be further developed to complement this material for an e-learning course.

5.4. It is recognized that to ensure the sustainability of trade in services statistics technical assistance provision this e-learning course needs to be bound into a strategy for capacity building and technical assistance within the inter-agency task force. This will be achieved by reviewing activities conducted and material available, as well as through the development of a "catalogue" of what can be offered in terms of technical assistance to economies.

5.5. UNCTAD and WTO Secretariat had their second meeting in February 2013 for the development of a trade in services statistics e-learning platform. The UNCTAD-WTO Secretariat meeting in February 2013 aimed at initiating the design of a curriculum for such a project. Participants were from the statistics groups of UNCTAD and WTO, as well as UNCTAD staff from the Division on Technology and Logistics Knowledge Sharing (Training and Capacity Development Branch). The purpose of this phase from the TrainForTrade methodology, called Design a Curriculum (DACUM) is to brainstorm on the Statistics of International Trade in Services' subject in order to define the objectives and content of job aids to be developed, to write training objectives, to define target population, to describe what the trainees will be able to do as a result of training and to design tests for each objective and finally to sequence training objectives and group them into training modules to form the curriculum. This is based on existing material provided by the European Union (project Medstat III) and WTO Secretariat. The forthcoming MSITS 2010 compiler's guide and the BPM6 compilation guide will also form the basis for developing the e-learning material.

5.6. The next steps that will be conducted in the coming weeks will consist in finalizing the drafting of outlines of each module, specifying subtasks and the concrete content of each module, defining terms of references and selecting an international consultant responsible for drafting and validating the training package. Once the objectives, outlines etc. will be available these will be circulated to the task force.

6 INFORMATION PROVIDED BY COUNTRIES/ECONOMIES ON BILATERAL OR REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

6.1. The WTO Secretariat received responses from a survey it launched in October 2012 for developing economies and transition economies. This survey was conducted via WTO's delegates to the Trade in Services Council, as well as delegations of Member and Observer economies. It was prepared in consultation with UNSD and OECD. The aim of this procedure was in particular to gather complementary information to what was asked to OECD members for the preparation of the October 2012 Working Party on Trade in Goods and Services Statistics. The information gathered concerned (past or future) participation to regional workshops, national seminars, bilateral activities on trade in services statistics as well as identifying economies which have benefited of consultancy work.

6.2. 24 responses were received for the WTO Secretariat survey (from 22 Members and Observers, 9 from Asia, 6 from Latin America, 5 from Africa, 2 from Europe). The information provided on specific events was used to amend the list of activities (although a lot of the information had already been accounted for through the information task force members had provided). The results of this survey can be summarised as follows:

- a. 80% of the respondents indicated that they had in recent years benefited from regional/national activities statistical activities in relation to trade in services (many dealing more generally with balance of payments statistics).
- b. 9 countries reported on possible future events, some of which have already taken place since the survey was conducted. This survey also showed that the Asociación Latinoamericana de Integración (ALADI) secretariat is conducting annual workshops as well as runs a forum to enable the exchange of experiences between statisticians on the compilation of balance of payments (BOP) trade in services statistics and Foreign Affiliates Statistics (FATS).
- c. Some countries reported on experts from their national offices who had acted as resource persons for various capacity building projects.
- d. Only a handful of countries reported some bilateral activities on trade in services statistics (Latin American countries between them, or South Africa which conducted a study visit to Australia and planning a visit to Malaysia) and balance of payments. This confirms that although it is seen as beneficial, there are limited possibilities to conduct such activities, resources being a major constraint from the perspective of host countries. The Brazilian Ministry of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade also reported on the meetings it had in the context of its Sicoserv project.² Togo reported on possible exchanges at the level of UEMOA.
- e. Concerning consultancy work, 10 countries reported that they had benefited from this type of activity, many of which were referring to IMF related consultancy work. Not surprisingly the ASEAN economies that participated in the survey reported on the consultancy work conducted in the context of the European Union-ASEAN statistics project, and Malaysia and Mauritius on the work conducted under the auspices of the Commonwealth Secretariat. Costa Rica also reported on the extensive consultancy work it has benefited from IMF consultants. Finally Panama indicated that it would be interest in such work. The WTO Secretariat is investigating this further with the authorities of Panama.

6.3. As indicated above, this report also includes technical assistance related information as provided by respondents of OECD member countries to the coordinated questionnaire on implementation of BPM6/MSITS2010 recommendations. This questionnaire included a question on the engagement of individual economies in regional/bilateral technical assistance activities in relation to BOP or trade in services statistics, in particular with developing economies. Results obtained can be summarized as follows:

- a. Just over half the OECD countries are or have been involved in such activities.
- b. Concerning the regional workshops/seminars some are already covered in the report of activities of international/regional organisations, but activities of an ALADI working group active since 2010 were reported by Chile and Mexico.
- c. 7 countries reported technical assistance activities/exchanges (bilateral or regional events) in the field of trade in services statistics, some of them with a coverage of FATS.³ 9 reported having more general activities on BOP/BPM6.
- d. Bilateral activities:
 - i. Activities purely on trade in services statistics were reported by a handful of economies: Australia, Hungary and Netherlands for Vietnam; Austria and United Kingdom for Turkey. Estonia reported an activity on statistics on financial

intermediation services indirectly measured (FISIM) in collaboration with the European Central Bank (ECB) for Serbia.

- ii. Broader Balance of Payments Manual 6th edition level:

8.2. Discussions have also taken place with the OECD and Eurostat on FATS related technical assistance. At the time of discussions no activities had recently taken place or were planned. However it was highlighted that it would be good to coordinate these activities, and that the task force example could be extended to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) statistics. It is envisaged to approach the UNCTAD Investment Department to identify the possible links with the activities that it may be conducting.

8.3. IMF already shared information in this context: Over the last few years, the IMF conducted a number of regional workshops on the Coordinated Direct Investment Survey (CDIS) to discuss both results of the countries' participation to the IMF's survey and to encourage new CDIS reporters; these workshops also included a training component in direct investment from the BOP perspective.

9 FUTURE WORK

9.1. E-learning: In order to ensure the sustainability of such a project, UNCTAD and WTO Secretariat would welcome any proposal for collaboration or additional funding proposals to maintain, further develop and expand the number of countries and economies that could benefit from this learning in the future.

9.2. Analyse training material available as well as agendas to identify what could be amended or improved to provide technical assistance on a more sustainable basis. This would also be an opportunity to create a "catalogue" of activities proposed by task force members as well as

ANNEX 1: SUMMARY OF 2010-12 AND PLANNED 2013 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES AND AWARENESS
RAISING RELATING TO MSITS 2010

The full updated list of activities starting in 2004 is provided at http://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/ongoing_e.htm.

Organizer(s)	Resource persons	Location (date)	Title of event	Countries and economies targeted	Focus on compilation
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Organizer(s)	Resource persons	Location (date)	Title of event	Countries and economies targeted	Focus on compilation
IMF	IMF	Singapore (June 2010)	Seminar on Statistics of International Trade in Services	Afghanistan; Bangladesh; Cambodia; China; Fiji; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; Iran; Lao People's Dem. Rep.; Malaysia; Nepal; Pakistan; Philippines; Singapore; Sri Lanka; Thailand; Vietnam	X
Funded by European Commission	Consultant	Hanoi; Vietnam (November 2010- 2 weeks)	Consultancy	Vietnam	X
Chinese MOFCOM	WTO; Hong Kong, China (CSD)	Kunming; China (November/December 2010)	5th International Seminar on Trade in Services	China	X
UNSD; Vietnam (GSOV)	UNSD; Eurostat; WTO	Hanoi; Viet Nam (November-December 2010)	Statistics of International Trade in Services: Challenges and Good Practices Workshop for the South-East Asian countries	BT1 0 0 1 470.23 303.31 Tm0 g[

Organizer(s)	Resource persons	Location (date)	Title of event	Countries and economies targeted	Focus on compilation
				Uganda; Zambia; Zimbabwe	
IMF/Central American Technical Assistance Center (CAPTAC)	IMF; CAPTAC	Managua; Nicaragua (February 2011)	Seminar on Statistics on International Trade in Services	Costa Rica; Guatemala; El Salvador; Honduras; Panama; Dominican Republic; Nicaragua and Central American Monetary Council	X
AANZFTA	ASEAN; WTO; Australia (ABS); New Zealand (Statistics NZ); UNESCAP	Bangkok; Thailand (March 2011)	AANZFTA Capacity Building Workshop on International Trade in Services Statistics Collection & Management Joint policy and compilers workshop	Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; Indonesia; Lao People's Dem. Rep.; Malaysia; Myanmar; Philippines; Singapore; Thailand; Vietnam	
European Commission/ASEAN	Consultant	Jakarta (April 2011)	Workshop and second meeting of TF SITS	Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; Indonesia; Lao People's Dem. Rep.; Malaysia; Myanmar; Philippines; Singapore; Thailand; Vietnam	X
METAC	METAC	Beirut; Lebanon (April 2011)	Workshop on international trade in services	Afghanistan; Algeria; Egypt; Iraq; Jordan; Kuwait; Lebanon; Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of; Sudan; Syrian Arab Republic	X
IMF; India (RBI)	IMF; WTO	Pune; India (September 2011)	Course on international trade in services statistics (ITS)	Afghanistan; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Eritrea; Ethiopia; India; Kenya; Maldives; Nepal; Sri Lanka; South Sudan; Tanzania; Uganda	X
UNSD; China (NBS) Eastern African Community; Germany (GIZ)	UNSD	Beijing; China (October 2011)	Regional seminar on international trade statistics (goods and services)	China; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; Japan; Malaysia; Philippines; Singapore; Thailand; Vietnam	X

Organizer(s)	Resource persons	Location (date)	Title of event	Countries and economies targeted	Focus on compilation
Eurostat	Eurostat	Luxembourg (November 2011)	Workshop on Balance of Payments and International Trade Statistics (covering services)	Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Croatia; FYR Macedonia; Kosovo; Montenegro; Serbia; Turkey	X
IMF / Central American Technical Assistance Center (CAPTAC)	IMF; CAPTAC	Tegucigalpa; Honduras (November 2011)	Seminar on Statistics on International Trade in Services	Costa Rica; El Salvador; Rep. Dominicana; Nicaragua; Guatemala; Honduras;	X
Eurostat	Eurostat	Luxembourg (December 2011)	Workshop on foreign direct investment and outward foreign affiliates statistics	Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Croatia; FYR Macedonia; Kosovo; Montenegro; Serbia; Turkey	X

2011

Capacity building and Technical assistance on trade in services statistics for individual countries

Cambodia; Indonesia; Lao

European Commission/ASEAN

Consultants

Organizer(s)

Resource
persons

Location
(date)

Title of event

Organizer(s)	Resource persons	Location (date)	Title of event	Countries and economies targeted	Focus on compilation
ASEAN/?	tbd	Jakarta (July 2013)	Workshop on Statistics of International Trade in Services	Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; Indonesia; Lao People's Dem. Rep.; Malaysia; Myanmar; Philippines; Singapore; Thailand; Vietnam	X
CEFTA/European Commission	CEFTA; WTO; ?	tbd (October 2013)	Workshop on Statistics of International Trade in Services	??Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; FYR Macedonia; Moldova; Montenegro; Serbia; UNMIK/Kosovo??	X
APEC/UNSD	Tbd	3 rd or 4 th quarter 2013	Workshop on Statistics of International Trade in Services	Selected Asian economies	X
WTO	WTO	Uruguay (November 2013)	WTO National Seminar on Statistics of International Trade in Services	Uruguay	X