



## **MINUTES OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> ICP INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION GROUP MEETING**

**MARCH 14-15, 2018**

**WORLD BANK, WASHINGTON, DC**

### **WELCOME AND MEETING OBJECTIVES**

The fifth meeting of the International Comparison Program (ICP) Inter-Agency Coordination Group (IACG) was held on March 14-15, 2018, at the World Bank headquarters in Washington, DC.

The main objectives of the meeting were to discuss the i) status of global and regional activities and risks; ii) status of data submissions and feedback on operational materials; iii) regional support needs on gross fixed capital formation surveys; iv) overall timeline; v) publication of results and data access; vi) update on data processing tools; and vi) outreach, knowledge and uses, per the agenda provided in Annex 1. The meeting participants are listed in Annex 2.

Nada Hamadeh, ICP Global Lead, World Bank, opened the meeting by welcoming the meeting participants and emphasizing the urgency to ensure that all regions and countries are collecting and validating the collected data per the agreed timetables, in order to ensure a successful and timely completion of the ICP 2017 cycle.

### **STATUS OF GLOBAL ACTIVITIES AND RISKS, FEEDBACK FROM THE IACG PRINCIPALS MEETING, AND FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TASK FORCES' MEETINGS**

Nada Hamadeh presented the status of global activities and risks, feedback from the recent New York IACG Principals meeting, and findings and recommendations from the Task Forces' meetings. The related presentation is available [here](#).

#### Agreements and conclusions:

- The ICP Governing Board should be provided with a clear update on the progress and risks, ahead of its next meeting, scheduled for October 2018.
- To this end, the Regional Implementing Agencies agreed to provide the Global Implementing Agency with all available interim, extrapolation, and 2017 ICP cycle data by the end of July 2018, for collective review and analysis at the sixth IACG meeting, scheduled for September 2018, and subsequent reporting at the third ICP Governing Board meeting in October 2018.

## STATUS OF REGIONAL ACTIVITIES AND RISKS

The Regional Implementing Agencies reported on the status of their interim and 2017 cycle activities and related risks. The following presentations and interventions were made:

- Africa: Fessou Emesan Lawson, African Development Bank (AfDB) | [Presentation](#)
- Asia and the Pacific: Kaushal Joshi, Asian Development Bank (ADB) | [Presentation](#)
- CIS: Andrey Kosarev, Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS-STAT)
- Latin America and the Caribbean: Bruno Lana, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-ECLAC) | [Presentation](#)
- Western Asia: Majed Skaini, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA) | [Presentation](#)
- Eurostat-OECD: Marjanca Gasic, Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat) and Francette Koehlin, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

### Agreements and conclusions:

- The Regional Implementing Agencies will ensure the timely conduct of all planned regional activities and workshops.
- The ICP Governing Board Co-Chairs will issue letters to all National Implementing Agencies on the urgency and necessity of carrying-out all required national activities in a timely manner.
- The World Bank will issue letters to some non-participating countries, such as Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, to urge them to take part of the program.

## DATA AND OPERATIONAL MATERIALS

Marko Rissanen and William Vigil-Oliver, World Bank, presented a summary of the interim and extrapolation data submissions to date, as well as associated coverage and data quality issues. The related presentation is available [here](#).

### Agreements and conclusions:

- The Global Implementing Unit will provide the Regional Implementing Agencies with a review of interim data submitted thus far; however, all Regional Implementing Agencies should provide the Global Implementing Unit with all available interim and 2017 cycle data by the end July 2018, in order to allow for the global validation activities to take place in a timely fashion.
- Following recommendations from the second meeting of the PPP Compilation and Computation Task Force, it was agreed that the extrapolation data reporting forms will be expanded to allow for reporting more detailed data, where available.
- In terms of extrapolation data reporting responsibilities by each region, the following was agreed:
  - AfDB will report data for 50 countries, including Eritrea, Somalia and South Sudan. They will not report data for Egypt, Sudan and Morocco.
  - ADB will report data for 22 countries. They will not report data for Macao.
  - CIS-STAT will report data for 8 countries, including Russia.
  - Eurostat-OECD will report data for Colombia and Costa Rica. They will not report data for Russia. The feasibility of having Eurostat-OECD report the required extrapolation data for Ukraine and Georgia was also raised, but this will be discussed and reviewed in more detail following the meeting.

- UN-ECLAC will report data for 39 countries, including Argentina, Guyana and Venezuela. They will not report data for Colombia and Costa Rica.
- UN-ESCWA will report data for 13 countries, including Libya and Morocco. They will not report data for Yemen.

Mizuki Yamanaka, World Bank, briefed the meeting participants on the feedback received to date on the Global Core Lists and survey forms. The related presentation is available [here](#).

Agreements and conclusions:

- The need to update the global item list for fast evolving technology (FET) items on annual basis was agreed.
- However, for the ongoing surveys during the 2018 calendar year, the updated FET item list should not be imposed on countries, in order to avoid delays or misunderstandings.
- Descriptions of selected global items will be updated for the next ICP cycle for better clarity and comparability.

**GROSS FIXED CAPITAL FORMATION SURVEYS**

Marko Rissanen presented the general approaches for the gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) surveys, related survey schedules, and introduced global consulting firms<sup>1</sup> available for providing technical assistance to the ICP regions. The related presentation is available [here](#).

Agreements and conclusions:

- The Regional Implementing Agencies will inform the Global Implementing Agency of the required technical assistance needs on GFCF surveys, including the schedules for the forthcoming regional workshops covering the GFCF surveys.

**OVERALL TIMELINE AND PUBLICATION OF RESULTS**

Nada Hamadeh presented the timetable for the ICP 2017 cycle activities. The related presentation is available [here](#) and the timetable [here](#).

Agreements and conclusions:

- The Regional Implementing Agencies will provide the Global ICP Unit with all available interim, extrapolation, and ICP 2017 cycle data by the end of July 2018.

**PUBLICATION OF ICP RESULTS, DATA NEEDS FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE, AND DATA ACCESS**

Nada Hamadeh presented the proposal for extending the ICP publication level, global data needs for quality assurance and expanding data access. The related presentation is available [here](#).

Marjanca Gasic briefed the meeting participants on criteria for the current Eurostat-OECD publication level. The related document is available [here](#).

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<sup>1</sup> *Planco Consulting GmbH* for Machinery and Equipment surveys and *Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)* for Construction and Civil Engineering surveys.

Sergey Sergeev, Statistics Austria, presented associated challenges with extending the ICP publication level. The related presentation is available [here](#) and the related document [here](#).

Agreements and conclusions:

- The Global ICP Unit will draft separate notes on data access needs for quality assurance and criteria for publication. In addition, the Global ICP Unit will compile a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) on data access policy.

**UPDATE ON IT TOOLS**

Maurice Nsabimana, World Bank, presented the status of the IT tool development for data management, validation and computation. The related presentation is available [here](#).

Agreements and conclusions:

- The Global ICP Unit will keep the Regional Implementing Agencies updated on developments with the tools for data management, validation and computation.

**OUTREACH, KNOWLEDGE AND USES**

Inyoung Song, World Bank, briefed the meeting participants on global and regional plans for the ICP Golden Jubilee. The related presentation is available [here](#). She also announced that the PPP eLearning course was officially released through the [World Bank Group's Open Learning Campus](#) and is available for both internal and external audiences.

Nada Hamadeh briefed the meeting participants on the latest uses of PPPs and ICP data. The related presentation is available [here](#).

Agreements and conclusions:

- The Regional Implementing Agencies will promote the PPP eLearning course for potential interest groups, including the National Implementing Agencies.
- The Global ICP Unit will continue to extend the inventory of PPP and ICP data uses and make the related assets available to Regional and National Implementing Agencies.

## **ANNEX 1: MEETING AGENDA**



### **5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICP Inter-Agency Coordination Group**

**March 14-15, 2018  
World Bank, Washington, DC**

#### **Agenda**

#### **Wednesday, March 14, 2018**

**09:00 – 09:15** Welcome and meeting objectives, *World Bank*

**09:15 – 10:00** Status of global activities and risks, *Global ICP Unit, World Bank*

**10:00 – 10:30** Findings and recommendations from the Task Forces' meetings, *Global ICP Unit, World Bank*

**10:30 – 12:30** Status of regional activities and risks

- Africa, *AFDB*
- Asia and the Pacific, *ADB*
- CIS, *CIS-STAT*
- LAC, *UN-ECLAC*
- Western Asia, *UN-ESCWA*
- Eurostat-OECD, *Eurostat and OECD*

**12:30 – 14:00** Lunch

**14:00 – 15:30** Data and operational materials

- Status of interim and extrapolation data for all GDP headings, *Global ICP Unit, World Bank*
- Feedback on Global Core Lists and survey forms from regions/countries, *Global ICP Unit, World Bank*

**15:30 – 16:30** Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) surveys

- GFCF survey schedule and item lists, *Global ICP Unit, World Bank*
- Introduction of global consultants on GFCF, *PLANCO and RICS*
- Round table discussion on GFCF: Identified regional challenges and support needs, *All regional agencies*

**16:30 – 17:00** Overall timeline and publication of results, *Global ICP Unit, World Bank*

**Thursday, March 15, 2018**

**09:00 – 10:30 Publication of ICP results, data needs for quality assurance, and data access**

- Proposal for extending the ICP publication level, global data needs for quality assurance, and expanding data access, *Global ICP Unit, World Bank*
- Criteria for the current Eurostat-OECD publication level, *Eurostat*
- Associated challenges with extending the ICP publication level, *Statistics Austria*
- Regional feedback on expanding data access, *All regional agencies*

**10:30 – 11:00 Update on IT tools, *Global ICP Unit, World Bank***

**11:00 – 12:00 Outreach, knowledge and uses**

- Global and regional plans for the ICP Golden Jubilee and Launch of PPP eLearning course, *Global ICP Unit, World Bank*
- Latest uses of PPPs and ICP data, *Global ICP Unit, World Bank*

## **ANNEX 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

### **African Development Bank (AfDB)**

- Fessou Emesan Lawson
- Gregoire Mboya Deloubassou
- Rees Mpofu
- Michel Mouyelo-Katoula

### **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**

- Kaushal Joshi

### **India Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation**

- Sunil Jain

### **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**

- Margarida Martins

### **Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS-STAT)**

- Andrey Kosarev
- Valerica Accibas

### **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**

- Francette Koechlin

### **Planco Consulting GmbH**

- Peter Tabor

### **Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat)**

- Marjanca Gasic

### **Statistics Austria**

- Sergey Sergeev

### **Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)**

- David Crosthwaite
- Aaron Wright

### **United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-ECLAC)**

- Bruno Lana
- Maria Paz Collinao
- Norma Chhab-Alperin

### **United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA)**

- Majed Skaini

### **University of Florence**

- Luigi Biggeri

**University of Pennsylvania**

- Alan Heston

**World Bank**

- Nada Hamadeh
- Yuri Dikhanov
- Marko Olavi Rissanen
- Mizuki Yamanaka
- Maurice Nsabimana
- William Vigil-Oliver
- Inyoung Song
- Christelle Kouame