



Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the International Comparison Program (ICP) Task Force on Country Operational Guidelines and Procedures

September 27, 2018

World Bank, Washington, DC

Welcome and Meeting Objectives

The third meeting of the ICP Task Force on Country Operational Guidelines and Procedures was held on September 27, 2018 at the World Bank headquarters in Washington, DC. The meeting agenda and list of meeting participants can be found in Annex 1 and 2.

The main objective of the meeting was to discuss and review progress and topics under the three themes covered by the Task Force: moving towards rolling price surveys, CPI-ICP synergies to improve spatial and temporal price consistency, and sub-national PPPs.

Prasada Rao, University of Queensland and Hitotsubashi Institute for Advanced Study, Task Force coordinator, opened the meeting with an [introductory presentation](#) to remind participants of the Task Force's progress to date, final deliverables and deadlines. He also briefed the meeting on the Technical Advisory Group's (TAG) feedback to the Task Force's work and progress up to now.

Discussion Topics

Presentations were made on all three ICP Research Agenda topics assigned to the Task Force. These are listed below, along with links to each presentation and related documents.

- Moving towards rolling price surveys
Implementing the Rolling Price Survey Approach, *David Roberts, Independent Expert*
[Presentation](#) | [Document 1](#) | [Document 2](#)

- Sub-national PPPs: Country case studies
United Kingdom, *Sharne Bailey, U.K. Office for National Statistics*
[Presentation](#) | [Document](#)

- Italy, *Luigi Biggeri, University of Florence*
[Presentation](#) | [Document](#)

- USA, *Bettina Atten, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis*
[Presentation](#) | [Document 1](#) | [Document 2](#) | [Document 3](#)

- CPI-ICP synergies to improve spatial and temporal price consistency
Current practices on CPI-ICP integration, *Patrick Kelly, National Statistical Office of South Africa*
[Presentation](#) | [Document](#)
- CPI-ICP Integration Questionnaire: Preliminary Analysis of Responses, *Prasada Rao, The University of Queensland and Hitotsubashi Institute for Advanced Study (HIAS)*
[Presentation](#)

Agreements and Conclusions

The Task Force agreed on the following recommendations and next steps for topics under each of the three Task Force Research Agenda items:

Moving towards rolling price surveys

- The meeting agreed that in principle it may not be feasible to establish the *rolling price survey approach* in time for the ICP 2020. In the meantime; however, structures will be set up to ensure an ICP 2020 benchmark comparison and lay the groundwork for producing annual comparisons in later years.
- To better understand regional plans for the ICP 2020, the Global ICP Unit will contact all ICP Regional Implementing Agencies to inquire about their tentative plans and survey approach for the ICP 2020 cycle.

Sub-national PPPs

- It was agreed that the final guideline document on this topic should employ standardized terminology on sub-national PPPs topics, and distinguish clearly between spatial price adjustment factors and sub-national PPPs. The guideline document would include examples and information on the challenges and realities faced by countries when it comes to sub-national PPPs, and would contain a special section on 'housing'.
- The Global ICP Unit will contact all ICP Regional Implementing Agencies to inquire about which countries in their regions are currently producing/planning to produce sub-national PPPs.
- The meeting agreed that the ICP may benefit from having a data structure that, like in the U.S. example presented, facilitates the decision-making process on which product characteristics might be important when comparing products between regions within a country, or even between countries.

CPI-ICP synergies to improve spatial and temporal price consistency

- It was agreed that the country responses to the CPI-ICP Integration Survey should be used to identify countries that can play the role of regional champions for CPI-ICP integration. In addition, a more complete analysis of the responses to the CPI-ICP Integration survey will be prepared once responses from all ICP regions are received.
- The Task Force concurred that writing a comprehensive guideline or manual on CPI-ICP integration is quite difficult. The proposed and agreed alternative is to prepare a document that lays out the basic principles of CPI-ICP integration and includes specific examples on how CPI-ICP integration is currently done in selected champion countries.

Next meeting

- The next meeting of the Task Force will be organized in conjunction with the next TAG meeting, in May 2019, in Paris, France.

ANNEX 1: MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, September 27, 2018

09:00 – 09:15 Introductory remarks

Progress with the Task Force task list and meeting objectives, *Prasada Rao, The University of Queensland and Hitotsubashi Institute for Advanced Study (HIAS)*

09:15 – 10:15 Rolling Price Surveys and ICP

Implementing the Rolling Price Survey Approach, *David Roberts, Independent Expert*

Discussion and way forward

10:15 – 11:30 Sub-national PPPs

Country case studies:

- United Kingdom, *Sharne Bailey, U.K. Office for National Statistics*
- Italy, *Luigi Biggeri, University of Florence*
- USA, *Bettina Atten, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis*

Discussion and way forward

11:30 – 12:00 CPI – ICP synergies

Current practices on CPI-ICP integration, *Patrick Kelly, National Statistical Office of South Africa*

CPI-ICP Integration Questionnaire: Preliminary Analysis of Responses, *Prasada Rao, The University of Queensland and Hitotsubashi Institute for Advanced Study (HIAS)*

Discussion and way forward

12:00 – 12:30 Conclusions and recommendations

Prasada Rao, The University of Queensland and Hitotsubashi Institute for Advanced Study (HIAS)

ANNEX 2: MEETING PARTICIPANTS

Task Force Members

- Sunil Jain, India Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- Patrick Kelly, National Statistical Office of South Africa
- Sharne Bailey, UK Office for National Statistics
- Bettina Atten, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
- Majed Skaini, UN Economic & Social Commission for Western Asia
- Prasada Rao, The University of Queensland and Hitotsubashi Institute for Advanced Study
- Brian Graf, World Bank Consultant
- David Roberts, World Bank Consultant
- Yuri Dikhanov, World Bank
- William Vigil-Oliver, World Bank

Global ICP Unit

- Nada Hamadeh, World Bank
- Marko Olavi Rissanen, World Bank
- Mizuki Yamanaka, World Bank
- Maurice Nsabimana, World Bank
- Inyoung Song, World Bank
- Christelle Kouame, World Bank
- Elizabeth Purdie, World Bank

Regional Implementing Agencies

- Ben Paul Mungyereza, African Development Bank
- Gregoire Mboya Deloubassou, African Development Bank
- Rees Mpofo, African Development Bank
- Michel Mouyelo-Katoula, African Development Bank
- Kaushal Joshi, Asian Development Bank
- Stefan Schipper, Asian Development Bank
- Andrey Kosarev, CIS-STAT
- Valerica Accibas, CIS-STAT
- Paulus Konijn, Eurostat
- Francette Koechlin, OECD
- Giovanni Savio, UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
- Bruno Lana, UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
- Maria Paz Collinao, UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
- Majed Skaini, UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Other Participants

- Gregory Max Henri Legoff, International Monetary Fund
- Sergey Sergeev, Statistics Austria
- Marina Wright, Office for National Statistics, United Kingdom
- Robert Hill, University of Graz
- Alan Heston, University of Pennsylvania