CIS ICP Regional Report on ICP 2021 cycle implementation (as of October 2021)

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International Comparison Program
Meeting of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group
Virtual Meeting, October 12-14, 2021
- Updates on country participation
- Survey implementation status
- Workshops and meetings
- Outreach activities and releases
- Risk assessment
9 CIS countries participate in full-size format in the ICP 2021:

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

The participation of Turkmenistan is not yet confirmed officially. Meanwhile the CIS-STAT supports work contacts with the Turkmenistan national experts providing them with all operational materials and with the option to participate in regional meetings.
Consumer Items – the list, the specific survey guidelines for collecting data, and the electronic forms for submitting data on consumer goods and services were prepared and sent to NSOs in January 2021.

The final Consumer Items list in 2021 CIS ICP includes 2266 items.

The survey started in the Q1/2021 in all participating countries.

Additional data quality checking and validation based on Q1/2021 data were finished in the beginning of October 2021. 8 CIS countries participated in this exercise.

The submission of annual average prices on consumer items is expected by the end of March 2022.

Preliminary PPPs are expected to be computed in Q2/2022.

Checking and improving the data quality: Q2–Q3/2022.
Investment Items – the list, the survey guidelines for collecting data, and the electronic forms for submitting data on machinery and equipment were prepared and sent to NSOs in the beginning of July 2021.

Investment Items List had been approved by the CIS NSOs by e-mail.

The final List in 2021 CIS ICP includes 584 items.

The preliminary prices for investment goods should be submitted to CIS-STAT by the end of November 2021.

The updated list of construction materials and electronic forms for submitting data were prepared and sent to NSOs in the beginning of July 2021.
Updated questionnaires and guidelines on *non-market services and housing rent* will be prepared and sent to NSOs in March 2022.

Updated *GDP Disaggregation by Basic Headings*, guidelines and questionnaire for submitting the GDP data will be prepared and sent to NSOs in May 2022.
**Workshops and meetings**

**Recent:**

December 21-22, 2020 – online meeting of experts of CIS NSOs and CIS-STAT was held to discuss reconciliation issues of consumer items list;

September 14, 16-17, 2021 – online bilateral meeting of CIS-STAT experts with the Uzbekistan NSO experts was held focusing on validation of Q1/2021 prices for consumer items;

**Planned:**

November, 2021 – online bilateral meeting of CIS-STAT experts with the Tajikistan NSO experts to discuss validation of Q1/2021 prices for consumer items is planned to be organized;

December, 2021 – online meeting of experts of CIS NSOs and CIS-STAT is planned to be organized to discuss investment items and to make a first look on the preliminary prices.
Releases:

The *Statistical Compendium* on Global ICP results was published by CIS-STAT on July 16, 2020 in bilingual format Russian/English. The compendium includes: the 2017 Global ICP results; detailed results of 2017 CIS ICP; 2011 and 2014 revised results. Global and CIS regional revised results are presented for 2011, and CIS regional revised results – for 2014.

CIS-STAT made efforts to update the CIS ICP 2017 results. The *revised 2017 CIS ICP results* were published in June 2021.

All detailed results are accessible at the CIS-STAT website in database format.
Outreach activities:

*Translation into Russian* of the WB guides:

- “A Guide to the Compilation of Subnational Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs)”
- “A Guide to the Integration of Consumer Price Index (CPI) and International Comparison Program (ICP) Production Activities”

The translated drafts are being finalized and will be opened to users in accordance with the WB rules.

*Article on ICP activities, Guides on subnational PPPs, and CPI-ICP* – in the professional statistics journal.

*Learning exercises* for the Higher School of Economics students.
Risk assessment

- *Alternation of generations of ICP experts* in some countries. CIS-STAT provides an additional support to NSOs which had faced this problem;

- *Funding issues.* The World Bank’s support in providing lacking resources is of crucial importance.
  
  Among important issues that need an additional financing one would mention:
  
  getting consultancy services in methodological and practical areas (e.g. calculations on PPPs for construction provided by specialized consulting institution), translations of the WB guidelines into Russian and regional materials into English, communication and dissemination activities, et al.
Thank you!