



**Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the International Comparison Program (ICP)
Task Force on Country Operational Guidelines and Procedures
October 25, 2017
World Bank, Washington, DC**

Welcome and Meeting Objectives

The first meeting of the ICP Task Force on Country Operational Guidelines and Procedures was held on October 25, 2017 at the World Bank headquarters in Washington, DC.

The main objectives of the meeting were to brief Task Force members on the Terms of Reference for the Task Force and initiate discussions on the assigned research agenda topics. The meeting agenda and list of meeting participants are provided in Annex 1 and 2.

Nada Hamadeh, ICP Global Lead, World Bank, opened the meeting by welcoming participants and emphasizing the close link between the Task Force's outputs and current and future ICP operational work. Next, William Vigil-Oliver, Global ICP Unit, World Bank, presented the [Terms of Reference for the Task Force](#), including the list of Task Force members and a proposed timeline of activities and expected deliverables.

Task Force Topics

A roundtable of presentations and short discussions followed. The presentations covered topics belonging to each of the three research agenda items assigned to the Task Force:

Moving towards rolling price surveys

- [Rolling price surveys: overview, past experiences and potential challenges](#), Marjanca Gasic

CPI-ICP synergies to improve spatial and temporal price consistency

- [The South African experience of integrating PPP and CPI work](#), Patrick Kelly
- [Synergies between CPIs and PPPs and integration of survey activities in Western Asia](#), Majed Skaini

Sub-national PPPs

- [Current approaches to sub-national PPPs](#), Yuri Dikhanov

Agreements and Conclusions

- The Task Force accepted the Terms of Reference and concurred that the proposed timeline of activities and expected deliverables is quite generous.
- Prasada Rao, ICP Technical Advisory Group member, agreed to act as the Task Force coordinator.
- The Task Force agreed to restrict the boundary of sub-national PPP work to Household Consumption

- The Task Force agreed on a set of initial tasks to be completed by February 1, 2018. The distribution of tasks is provided below, along with the responsible Task Force member(s). These tasks would lay the groundwork for future work by the Task Force. Furthermore, it was noted that the Global ICP Unit stands ready to support all work undertaken by the Task Force.

Research Agenda Item	Task	Responsible
Moving towards rolling price surveys	Write up describing Eurostat’s rolling price survey approach, including a description of the process and summary of Eurostat’s experience. The text should summarize the challenges faced, lessons learned and include information on common implementation and operational concerns, e.g. how to handle new (fast-evolving) products that may require pricing every year. The text would also contain information on the current willingness of ICP regions and countries in adopting the rolling price survey approach and in synchronizing data collection across regions.	David Roberts
	Assessment of the coverage and quality of country’s CPI and national accounts deflators. This includes examining the level of CPI disaggregation (COICOP vs. other classification), degree of CPI coverage (urban vs. national), among other relevant aspects.	Global ICP Unit - IMF
	Summary of how price extrapolation (i.e. a pseudo-rolling price survey approach) was carried out in different regions during the 2005 and 2011 ICP rounds.	Prasada Rao
CPI-ICP synergies	Write up defining the scope of what is meant by CPI-ICP integration and synergies. The text should detail potential synergies and commonalities between CPI and ICP and clearly note what elements are beyond the scope of CPI-ICP integration activities and processes, e.g. CPI-ICP integration should not hinder the quality and relevance of a country’s CPI. The write up should also include two or three case-studies of countries with CPI-ICP integration, e.g. Israel, South Africa, India, Philippines, Morocco, Palestine, etc.	Patrick Kelly, Dilip Kumar Sinha and Majed Skaini
Sub-national PPPs	Write up on subnational <i>consumption</i> PPPs. This should provide a broad introduction to the topic and focus on how to better sell the idea of ICP PPPs. The text should summarize actual and potential uses of sub-national PPPs. It should also include information on ‘big ticket’ items like housing, and provide example of uses, e.g. for poverty analysis.	Luigi Biggeri and Yuri Dikhanov

Any Other Business

- The Global ICP Unit will set-up a [Microsoft OneDrive](#) folder for data and information sharing and invite the Task Force members to join the folder.

- The next meeting of the Task Force will be organized in conjunction with the Inter-Agency Coordination Group meeting, most likely in March 2018.

Annex 1: Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, October 25, 2017

Task Force	Country Operational Guidelines and Procedures
14:00 – 14:30	Background and TORs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Overall objectives, <i>Nada Hamadeh</i> – Terms of Reference for the Task Force, <i>William Vigil-Oliver</i>
14:30 – 15:00	Moving towards rolling price surveys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Rolling price surveys: overview, past experiences and potential challenges, <i>Marjanca Gasic</i>
15:00 – 16:00	CPI-ICP synergies to improve spatial and temporal price consistency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The South African experience of integrating PPP and CPI work, <i>Patrick Kelly</i> – Synergies between CPIs and PPPs and integration of survey activities in Western Asia, <i>Majed Skaini</i>
16:00 – 16:30	Sub-national PPPs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Current approaches to sub-national PPPs, <i>Yuri Dikhanov</i>
16:30 – 17:00	Way forward

Annex 2: Meeting Participants

Task Force Members

- Dilip Kumar Sinha, India Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation
- Levan Gogoberishvili, International Monetary Fund
- Patrick Kelly, National Statistical Office of South Africa
- Majed Skaini, UN Economic & Social Commission for Western Asia
- Luigi Biggeri, University of Florence
- Prasada Rao, University of Queensland
- 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
- Hanan AbuShanab, World Bank

Regional Implementing Agencies

- Gregoire Mboya Deloubassou, African Development Bank
- Rees Mpofu, African Development Bank
- Anouar Chaouch, African Development Bank
- Kaushal Joshi, Asian Development Bank
- Marjanca Gasic, Eurostat
- Andrey Kosarev, Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States
- Valerica Accibas, Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States
- Vasily Kuznetsov, Russian Federal State Statistics Service
- Francette Koechlin, OECD
- Federico Dorin, UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
- Maria Paz Collinao, UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Experts

- Sergey Sergeev, Statistics Austria
- Alan Heston, University of Pennsylvania