

SADC Workshop on Trade in Services Statistics

**Trade in Services Statistics
Technical Assistance:
Existing provisions and
arrangements**

Gaborone, 28-31 January 2014

Background information

- Technical assistance on trade in services statistics is part of Task Force mandate
- Supporting texts:
 - WTO Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration, 2005
 - United Nations Statistical Commission 2010
- Agencies providing technical assistance in this field: EU, UNSD, IMF and WTO and regional agencies, with assistance of Task Force members + UNWTO for tourism
- Since 2012: ITC, UNCTAD and WTO: work closely in particular on technical assistance

Coordination of capacity building activities

Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services decision (November 2011):

- **WTO** requested to **coordinate** this initiative
- Improve transparency and avoid duplication
- Prepare inventory of potential financing bodies
- Maintain list of experts/consultants
- Review existing material: synergies or improvements
- Develop further E-learning
- Link with other activities (e.g. BOP, FDI)

STATISTICS

Information on capacity-building activities on trade in services statistics



The [Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services](#) provides technical assistance to statisticians of statistical offices and central banks as well as other government officials. This addresses the request of the United Nations Statistical Commission that “all relevant international agencies and the United Nations regional commissions, especially members of the Task Force, [...] contribute to the implementation of the [Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services 2010](#).”

> Any feedback on this page
Please contact
statistics@wto.org

It also echoes the December 2005 WTO Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration, Annex C paragraph10 that states that WTO, inter alia, should provide targeted technical assistance. “Such assistance should be provided on, inter alia, compiling and analyzing statistical data on trade in services, [and] assessing interests in and gains from services trade....”.

All international agencies (Eurostat, IMF, OECD, UNCTAD, UNSD, UNWTO and WTO) which are members of the Task Force organize or participate in technical assistance efforts. Since 2011 the WTO Secretariat was asked by the Task Force to act as a focal point in the coordination of these efforts. The aim is in particular to:

- improve transparency of international and regional organisation’s technical assistance activities in the field of trade in services statistics and avoid overlapping or duplicating projects by establishing a transparent strategy for countries implementing the recommendations of the [Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services 2010](#);
- maintain a list of experts available to provide more hands-on and long-term technical assistance or participate in capacity building projects;
- review existing material to analyse and identify possible synergies or improvements in the way technical assistance is provided to producers and users of statistics; and
- explore new ways of doing technical assistance, for example through

Activities

[Summary of past, current and planned technical assistance activities and awareness raising relating to MSITS 2010](#)

Task Force on Trade in Services Statistics Capacity Building Support

WTO Training module: “Measuring Trade in Services”

http://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/services_training_module_e.htm

(English, French and Spanish, see also <http://etraining.wto.org/default.asp>, “Trade in services in WTO”, Module 10)

UNSD, WTO, EU, etc. Regional TIS Statistics Workshops

In collaboration with regional agencies (e.g. SADC)

http://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/ongoing_e.htm

WTO National seminars

Awareness raising at national level (compilers and users), Upon request from developing country members or acceding

Task Force list of consultants: available on request from
servstatsTA@wto.org

Related: IMF BoP headquarter or regional courses + country missions
(trade in services is a component)

For more information or coordination:
servstatsTA@wto.org

UNCTAD-WTO-UNSD project on E-learning

- Support of Task Force
- Beneficial to "students" + all agencies as training providers; **improve** way technical assistance provided; **optimise resources** (e.g. prerequisite for more targeted face-to-face events)
- Launch early 2014 (based on UNCTAD Train for Trade platform)
- **Sustainability:** Bound into broader strategy of capacity building/technical assistance

Tourism Statistics Capacity Building Support

UNWTO Free self-study course: Understanding tourism in the national economy, <http://www.unwto-themis.org/elearning/course/>

UNWTO Regional Statistical Capacity Building Programme

<http://statistics.unwto.org/en/content/statistics-capacity-building-programmes>

Series of 3 or 4 regional workshops every 6 months

- <http://statistics.unwto.org/en/content/scbp-asia-pacific-2010-2012>
- <http://statistics.unwto.org/en/content/scbp-europe-2008-2009>

UNWTO/RETOSA Joint Programme for Southern Africa on Tourism Statistics and TSA 18-21 March 2013, Dar es Salaam

Participants: Angola, DR Congo, Lesotho, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

UNSD/UNWTO workshops on trade and tourism statistics

- <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/events/2013/jakarta.asp>
- <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/workshops/Dominica%202013/default.htm>



SADC trade in services statistics

WHAT NEXT?

- **Discuss needs and coordination at national level based on roadmap (later this morning) by end March**
- **Identify further capacity building needs:**
 - **Specific expertise**
 - **Format (e-learning, training of trainers, consultancy, BoP course)**
 - **National or subregional level?**
- **Follow-up statistical workshop(s) at regional-SADC level? Special topics?**

Need to establish specific medium and long-term objectives