

**STATISTICS AND DATA DIRECTORATE
COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS AND STATISTICAL POLICY**

**Draft Agenda: 16th Meeting of the Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy
(CSSP)**

24-25 June 2019

The meeting will be held in Room 12 of the OECD Conference Centre.

The Draft Agenda will be finalised and issued under the code SDD/CSSP/A(2019)/REV1 in May. All documents, logistical information and presentations will be available in ONE CSSP Community (https://community.oecd.org/community/oecd_committee_on_statistics/overview).

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Draft Agenda: 16th Meeting of the Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy

Delegates are asked to take note of the special arrangements for this meeting. The Plenary sessions on 24 and 25 June are open to all registered delegates, including non-Member Participants, Invitees and Observers. The Confidential session that will take place on 25 June from 9:30-11:30 a.m. is only open to delegates from OECD member countries (see the separate Agenda [SDD/CSSP/A\(2019\)2](#)).

The timing of individual agenda items is indicative and will be adjusted based upon the length of discussions. During networking and/or lunch breaks, delegates are welcome to visit the exhibition in the conference hall showcasing data-driven projects developed by SDD and other Directorates.

Monday 24 June from 9:30 – 17:30 (plenary session 1)

9:30 – 9:45

Item 1. Introduction[SDD/CSSP/A\(2019\)1](#)

- Welcome from Chairperson Mr. Konrad Pesendorfer (Director-General of Statistics Austria) and approval of the draft Agenda.

9:45 – 10:15**Item 2. Report from the OECD Chief Statistician**

Presentation

- Ms. Martine Durand will report on the key outcomes of the Ministerial Council Meeting (MCM) taking place on 22-23 May under the title “Harnessing Digital Transition for Sustainable Development: Opportunities and Challenges”, and the implementation of CSSP’s current work programme.

10:15 – 11:15**Item 3. OECD Going Digital project: the measurement roadmap**[SDD/CSSP\(2019\)2](#)

The [OECD Summit on Going Digital](#) that took place in 11-12 March served as the high-level closing event of the two-year horizontal *Going Digital Project*. The main findings and policy messages of the project, including a report on [Measuring the Digital Transformation](#), were presented at the Summit. In addition to bringing together relevant indicators based on existing data, the report outlines a measurement roadmap to better gauge the various aspects of digitalisation in our economies and societies. Measurement issues were also discussed during one of the panels at the Summit.

Mr. Paul Schreyer (Deputy Director of SDD) will give an overview of the measurement agenda emerging from the Summit, point to possible implications for NSOs and for the statistics work at the OECD. The

measurement agenda is vast and it will be important to establish priorities. Country experience and feedback from national debates will be very useful for the purpose at hand.

CSSP Delegates will be invited to:

- Comment on the Going Digital Measurement Roadmap and recommendations;
- Indicate how these recommendations could translate into the longer-term work programme of the CSSP.

11:15 – 11:45 networking break

11:45 – 13:00

Item 4. Use cases of integrated environmental and economic statistics

[SDD/CSSP\(2019\)3](#)

This item will be presented jointly by senior representatives of the Environment Directorate and SDD. They will first highlight the value of collecting integrated information on the economy and the environment by showing how it has been used in selected recent OECD Environment Performance Reviews. They will also present recent OECD efforts to produce more consistent environmental and economic data, facilitate the implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) 2012, and develop global SEEA databases. The value added of the accounting logic in the SEEA, including for the SDGs, will be highlighted with a focus on air emission accounts and environmentally-related tax revenue accounts.

This session will also discuss how environmental-economic accounting benefits from recent advances in the availability of environmental information from Earth observations (i.e. improved timeliness, granularity and accuracy). The OECD is using these new data sources to support the development of land-cover indicators and the analysis of policies on biodiversity, land-use planning and urban sprawl. Earth observations also allow to link environmental (e.g., air pollution, natural and industrial hazards), economic and social data at fine spatial scales in order to study inequality in population exposure to environmental risks or access to environmental amenities. Work in this area is on-going with the development of a Geography of Well-being database.

CSSP Delegates will be asked to:

- Comment on SEEA implementation and the use of integrated environmental statistics in their country;
- Give advice on relevant indicators to assess the environmental dimensions of the quality of life or well-being. This includes measures of inequalities in exposure to environmental risks (e.g. air pollution) and environmental amenities (e.g. proximity to urban green spaces). Advances on these indicators would contribute to OECD work on measuring well-being and progress.

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch break

14:30 – 16:00

Item 5. Policy application of well-being metrics[SDD/CSSP\(2019\)4](#)

Several NSOs¹ have recently developed (or are currently developing) multidimensional dashboards of indicators that can be used to assess well-being, sustainable development and/or progress towards the UN Agenda 2030. The statistical agenda on well-being and sustainability remains significant, as set out in two recent reports by a High Level Expert Group on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress hosted by the OECD, *Beyond GDP* and *For Good Measure*. Nevertheless, considerable advances have been achieved in recent years, and these indicator dashboards are reaching a level of maturity that is enabling them to gain some traction in policy circles.

Knowing how indicator dashboards are used by stakeholders should inform their design and delivery, including scope, granularity and frequency with which data need to be collected. Recently, several governments have taken concrete steps to embed well-being and sustainability metrics in their policy processes in a structured way. Experiences range from informing budget deliberations (e.g., in France, Italy, New Zealand, and Sweden); drawing on well-being evidence to inform National Development Strategies, performance frameworks or target-setting (e.g. in Slovenia, Colombia, Korea, Scotland); creating new institutional structures to support building the evidence base needed for policy (e.g. the United Kingdom, Wales, and United Arab Emirates); and providing government analysts and civil servants with the new analytical tools they need to assess well-being impacts in the ex-ante appraisal and ex-post evaluation of specific policies and programmes (e.g. New Zealand, the United Kingdom).

In this session, the Secretariat will present [recent SDD work](#) to examine countries' experiences in developing well-being and sustainability dashboards, and in the policy uptake of these dashboards. This will draw on OECD work to review the *How's Life?* indicator set, as well as SDD contributions to the New Zealand Economic Survey 2019, which features a strong focus on measuring and applying well-being.

CSSP Delegates will be invited to:

- Present their experiences in working with government ministries seeking to use well-being and sustainability indicators to inform policy;
- Discuss how the evidence presented in the SDG-monitoring work led by NSOs is being used to inform the implementation of Agenda 2030;
- Reflect on what this policy demand means for how indicators and dashboards are constructed, and might develop in the future.

16:00 – 16:20 networking break

¹ These include the Netherlands' Monitor of Well-Being, Stats NZ's Indicators Aotearoa New Zealand, *How's Austria?*, Korea's Quality of Life Indicators, Israel's Measures of Equitable and Sustainable Well-Being, Mexico's National Platform for Tracking the Sustainable Development Goals, Finland's Findicators, Italy's Measures of Equitable and Sustainable Well-Being, Indicators of Well-Being in Slovenia, Luxembourg's Index of Well-Being, and the United Kingdom's Measures of National Well-Being and new Personal and Economic Well-Being Bulletin.

16:20 – 18:00

Item 6. Panel discussion on whether NSOs can or should exercise their agency to anticipate, innovate and invest on new and emerging issues

In the light of the discussion of the previous item and against the background of the recommendations in the report from the Chairs of the High-Level Expert Group on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress that calls for improving existing metrics (e.g. horizontal and vertical inequalities, subjective well-being or sustainability) and developing new measures (e.g. inequality of opportunities, resilience or trust) to better address people’s concerns, this Panel will engage in a broader discussion on whether NSOs’ work should restrict themselves to align with that of policy ministries and/or to respond to current social demand. In particular, should NSOs exercise their agency to explore new and innovative measurement areas even when no demand has been expressed by government departments, policy-makers or consultative bodies? In other words, can or should NSOs self-decide to “be ahead of the curve” and invest resources in areas where they anticipate demand for new measures in the future, based on work from academics, their own research, or otherwise (e.g. media reports, citizens’ movements, international developments, etc.)? To what extent could or should NSOs be in an anticipatory as opposed to a reactive mode? What are possible ways to overcome institutional or budgetary constraints that prevent them from exercising their agency?

Confidential session: Tuesday 25 June from 9:30 – 11:30

9:30 – 11:30

The confidential session will include a joint session with the Ambassadors of the Evaluation Committee to discuss preliminary results of CSSP’s In-depth Evaluation. Members should refer to the separate Agenda that will be issued under the code [SDD/CSSP/A\(2019\)2](#) for this session.

Tuesday 25 June from 11:30 – 17:00 (plenary session 2)

11:30 – 12:30

Item 7. OECD Regions and Cities at a Glance

[SDD/CSSP\(2019\)5](#)

This item will be presented by a senior representative of the Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities. The presentation will illustrate how the Secretariat is strengthening its capacity to provide solid and internationally comparable evidence for regions and cities in OECD countries and beyond, to meet the demands of policy-makers, at both national and subnational levels, and people. To kick off the discussion, the Secretariat will present the results of the recently released OECD Regions and Cities at a Glance publication. The report looks at how regions and cities in OECD countries are making progress towards stronger economies, higher quality of life for their citizens and more inclusive societies. The presentation will show how a consistent definition of “functional urban areas” – which is part of a global definition of cities and rural areas (to be presented at the 2020 meeting of the UN Statistical Commission) – can increase

comparability of indicators for cities and their surrounding area of influence. The presentation will also illustrate examples on how modelled indicators and unconventional data sources have been developed to complement existing statistical indicators at subnational level.

CSSP Delegates will be asked to:

- Comment on the steps taken by the Secretariat to produce more granular (at grid level, or other small geographies) and more timely statistics in order to monitor developments in urban and rural areas in a comparable way;
- Comment on steps that NSOs could put in place to strengthen statistical evidence on regions and cities, also in the light of the ongoing modernisation of statistical systems (induced by digitalisation and technological transformation) and of the 2030 Agenda call for more granular data to meet the challenge of “leaving no one behind”;
- Comment on the scope for using data integration (i.e. between official statistics, on one side, and sources such as geo-spatial or administrative data) in order to meet demands for more granular data.

12:30 – 14:30 Lunch break

14:30 – 15:45

Item 8. Use of business statistics

[SDD/CSSP\(2019\)6](#)

There is a growing demand for more granular data on businesses, witnessed by the increase in requests for access to micro data held within statistics offices (including through coordinated access tools such as OECD’s Dynemp and Multiprod), and through national initiatives to develop linked micro datasets (such as at the Australian Bureau of Statistics and unofficial private sources). Commercial data sources apart, for obvious reasons, chiefly confidentiality, this limits the scope, timeliness and international comparability of analyses drawing on these data.

Although business statistics collected by SDD do provide an internationally comparable view at a relatively detailed level (e.g. 4 digit ISIC/NACE), these data also struggle to meet the growing demands of users for more granular insights. But many of these demands could be met through smarter aggregations of existing business statistics based on internationally agreed definitions, while avoiding issues of confidentiality or lengthy procedures to access data.

Relevant new indicators or aggregations could be developed in five areas:

- Aggregations around complementary firm level characteristics**, such as by: ownership structure (MNE, domestic); dependencies (independent SME/dependent SME); trade status (importer, exporter, both, none); capital intensity levels (high, low, medium); skills capacities (high-skilled/medium skilled/low skilled employees)
- Distributions of composite indicators**: labour productivity; wage growth, turnover growth value-added growth, employment growth;
- Distributions around decile, quartile, quintile etc. groups**: on average wages, firm turnover, employment etc
- Measures of concentration**;

- v. **Measures of diffusion or mobility**, such as transition probability to a different size-class, higher productivity band etc.

Drawing on lessons learned from an exploratory study with ISTAT, a presentation from a senior representative from the Economics Department describing the policy need for and relevance of new indicators, and the experience of the ABS in the dissemination of indicators from their microdata set, Mr. Nadim Ahmad, Head of the Trade and Competitiveness Statistics Division will describe (and propose) a set of new internationally comparable indicators based on existing business statistics that could form the basis of a new data collection by SDD.

CSSP Delegates are asked to:

- Comment on the lessons learned (pros and cons);
- Discuss the proposal for a new data collection and the range of indicators suggested;
- Consider the possibility of a workshop to develop best practice and thresholds for certain indicators (for example deciles versus quartiles).

15:45 – 16:15 networking break

16:15 – 17:00

Item 9. Implementation of the OECD Council Recommendation on Good Statistical Practice

[SDD/CSSP\(2019\)7](#)

The Recommendation of the Council on Good Statistical Practice [[OECD/LEGAL/0417](#)], developed under the auspices of the CSSP and adopted by the Council on 23 November 2015, is the first and only OECD legal instrument concerning statistics and constitutes a key reference for assessing and benchmarking national statistical systems. Since its adoption, Argentina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Peru, and Romania have adhered to the Recommendation and several others, including Key Partners, have expressed their interest to adhere. Following a proposal from the CSSP in 2018, and considering that the Recommendation is a detailed blueprint for a sound and credible national statistical system and so as to assess the commitment of interested non-Members, the Council approved on 13 March 2019 the revision of the Recommendation aimed at including a review process for non-Member adherence. As per Council instructions, the CSSP is to monitor the implementation of the Recommendation and to report thereon to the Council no later than three years following its adoption and regularly thereafter. A full report on efforts to support implementation of the Recommendation will be provided to the OECD Executive Committee for transmission to the OECD Council by the end of 2019/early 2020.

Mr. Paul Schreyer will inform delegates on the preparation of this report which will allow the CSSP to assess the relevance and impact of its Recommendation.

17:00 – 17:30

Item 10. Information items and any other business

Item 10.a. SIS-CC

Mr. Eric Anvar (Head of the Smart Data Practices and Solutions Division) will present a status report on the OECD-led Statistical Information Systems Collaboration Community ([SIS-CC](#)), a reference open

source community for co-producing solutions for official statistics. 14 organisations are now contributing to the project (including several NSOs: Australia, Chile, Estonia, Italy, Luxembourg, New-Zealand, Tunisia – and in close partnership with Eurostat’s SDMX project). The presentation will introduce the new .Stat Suite, representing the culmination of the 2014-19 strategy, and opportunities identified for the next strategic cycle of the SIS-CC.

Item 10.b. Any other business