

The Canberra Group on Household Income Statistics

Update to E/CN.3/2000/9

Progress on group objectives

The group was established to address the common, conceptual, definitional and practical problems that national statistical offices face in the area of household income statistics. The objective to update international guidelines in this area will be achieved in 2000 by the release of a book which

- provides a framework for operations and analysis of household income,
- reports best practices on income distribution studies,
- indicates useful standards to be adopted,
- includes recommendations to tie standards and definitions for micro (household data) to macro (national accounts) concepts and measures.

The new manual

The proposed outline of the manual is given overleaf. A summary of each chapter can be found on <http://lissy.ceps.lu/canberra.htm>. Drafts of the complete chapters will be added to this web site in late May 2000. The manual will be finalised and the web site updated in the second half of 2000.

The consultation process

The draft will be discussed in detail at the fourth and final meeting of the Canberra group which will take place from May 14-17 2000 at the Luxembourg Income Study centre in Differdange, Luxembourg. Each session of the meeting represents a chapter of the proposed manual.

The draft manual will also be presented and discussed at the meeting of the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth to be held in August 2000.

Comments will also be welcome from readers of the successive drafts to be found on the web site quoted above. The goal is to reach a final version of the manual in late 2000.

Further information

E/CN.3/2000/9 gives background information on the composition of the group, its objectives, details of previous meetings and contact points for further information.

The proceedings of the third meeting held in Ottawa in 1999 are now available from Statistics Canada. The proceedings of all meetings to date are also available from the web site above.

Distribution of household income and expenditure

A Manual of the Canberra Group

To be published jointly by,
ECLAC, Eurostat, ILO, OECD, World Bank

and with participation of staff from ABS, BLS (USA), Census Bureau(USA), DIW (Germany), DSS (UK), , INEGI (Mexico), Luxembourg Income Study, NSO (Korea), Östat (Austria), ONS (UK), Statistics Canada, , Statistics Finland, Statistics Netherlands, Statistics New Zealand, Statistics Norway, Statistics Sweden, Wisma Statistik (Malaysia).

- Chapter 1 :** **Conceptual and Historical Overview,**
by Pieter Everaers, Paul van der Laan, and Maureen McDonald.
- Chapter 2 :** **Current Status of Countries,**
by Daniel Weinberg, Pieter Everaers, Pedro Sainz.
- Chapter 3 :** **Reconciliation of Micro-Macro Concepts and Terminology,**
by Anne Harrison, Judith Archibald, Tim Harris.
- Chapter 4 :** **Units of Classification and Analysis,**
by Mike Sheridan, Ian Macredie and Lars Osberg
- Chapter 5 :** **Reports on the Robustness of Income Distribution Data and Results**
by Gordon Harris.
- Chapter 6:** **Longitudinal Data Issues,**
by Gert G. Wagner, Jon Epland and Veli-Matti Tormalehto
- Chapter 7:** **Data Presentation Issues,**
by Jon Epland, Kjell Jansson
- Chapter 8:** **Cross-country Comparisons,**
by Tim Smeeding, Michael Ward, Ian Castles and Haeduck Lee
- Chapter 9:** **Data Trends and Time Series,**
by Anthony B. Atkinson, Andrea Brandolini, Paul van der Laan and Tim Smeeding
- Chapter 10:** **Issues and Concerns for Economic Development,**
by Pedro Sainz and Sylvester Young
- Chapter 11:** **Future Issues: The Radar Screen,**
by Duncan Ironmonger, Sylvester Young, Haeduck Lee, Tim Smeeding and Thesia Garner