ITC – World Bank – UNCTAD – WTO
Data Day

Trade in Services Statistics
The joint efforts of Geneva-based agencies

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Pattern of trade in services

• Services more resilient in crisis
• Developing countries participation increased
• Transport and travel share in world trade decreased
• South-south trade increased
UN Interagency Task Force on International Trade Statistics (TFITS)

- Services and merchandise trade statistics TFs established in early 1990s, meeting jointly since 2008
- Convenors: WTO and OECD, other members: IMF, UNSD, UNCTAD, UNWTO, Eurostat (regular face-to-face meetings and year-long exchanges)
- Coordinate work of international organisations on statistics of merchandise trade and services trade
  - (meta) data collection, sharing, processing and dissemination;
  - technical assistance (i.e. implementation), compilation guidance: first edition released in December 2014
- For services: led by WTO’s General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) information needs
What do we need to measure?

1) **Value of services trade flows**

   For mode 4: included under Balance of Payments Services Statistics

   Mode 4: Remittances and compensation of employees are not measures of mode 4 trade!!

2) **Additional indicators:**

   For example, for mode 4: “labour mobility statistics”, related to the international supply of services
...where do we head to?

- **Data collection:**
  - from each organization’s data collection to a joint approach

- **Data dissemination:**
  - the Geneva Trade Data Set on total exports and imports on trade in services

- **Concepts:**
  - from BPM6 to MSITS2010
  - Compilers Guide, white cover version e-released

- **Statistical capacity building**
  - TFITS decided WTO to be focal point (collaborative effort)
  - Strategy: E-learning course/National and Regional Seminars (topics-oriented)
  - Pilot project with selected country to replicate experience to others (knowledge sharing)
  - Funding (inter-agency task force-governed fund)
  - Vision 2020 (Eurostat-UN-OECD-UNCTAD-WTO)
...at international level
“Geneva based” TIS Datasets

UNCTAD-WTO joint work since January 2012

1980-2013

ANNUAL

2006-2014 QUARTERLY

Based on Eurostat, OECD, IMF, UN Servicetrade data
+ national data, estimates

Geneva based TIS datasets most complete and up-to-date

By detailed service category, partner
For all economies, regions, economic groups, world
+WTO: monthly dataset

Free  Online  Interactive
And where can I find FATS data?

Published at national level: selected economies

Collected and published:

OECD.Stat (globalisation)

Eurostat on-line database (structural business stats)

WTO: FATS inward and outward sales of firms primarily engaged in services activities (+employment, number of enterprises)

In WTO’s International Trade Statistics publication + I-TIP services statistics module
I-TIP Services statistics

• Accompanies GATS, RTAs and Applied regimes modules
• Relevant up-to-date statistics
• Resident/non-resident statistics, i.e. BoP commercial services trade By service product, partner
• Foreign Affiliates Statistics (FATS), i.e. mode 3
• Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in services
• Market information: value added, employment
• Sector specific indicators (quantitative)

WTO services profiles: telecom, transport, finance (electronic and paper)
Improving details and quality of statistics: Challenges ahead

- **Services statistics on BoP basis**
  - implementation of new statistical standards (BPM6)
  - develop partner data in particular in developing economies
  - reduce asymmetries (OECD-WTO bilateral matrix project)

- **Foreign Affiliates Statistics** (measure mode 3)

- **Develop modes of supply data**

- **New areas of work**
  - TiVA- Trade in Value Added terms (of which services)
  - STEC-Services Trade by Enterprise Characteristics