

# International Comparison Program Archiving and Accessing ICP 2005 Results

## I Overview

The purpose of this paper is to define the ICP results to be archived by the World Bank, define the data which can be accessed by researchers, and detail the procedures necessary to obtain access. The paper also covers the data access policy as approved by the ICP Executive Board and documented in Board Policy Paper number 3.

Section II describes the data from the regional and Ring programs to be archived by the World Bank and the security provisions for those data. Section III defines the approval authority to grant access to the regional and global results. Annex A describes the steps researchers must follow to gain access and the limitations on the use of the data.

## II Data and ICP material to be archived

The data to be archived by the World Bank Development Data Group will be given a security classification of “strictly confidential”. The data will be in a secure directory with limited internal access and administered by a designated data custodian. Access to the data (or any portions of the data) will be subject to approval as specified in section III. The following paragraphs define the data to be archived from the regional and global programs

### A. Data from Regional Programs.

- a. National annual average prices used to compute basic heading purchasing power parities (PPPs) in each of the regional programs. These have been archived for Africa, Asia, South America, and West Asia and include the prices for consumer goods and services from the regional product lists plus the price or quantity data for the global product lists for housing, government, equipment, and construction. The CIS and Eurostat-OECD are responsible for archiving the price data for their participating countries.
- b. Basic heading PPPs and expenditure weights. These were the final regional data used in the computation of the global PPPs as submitted by all ICP regions including the CIS plus Eurostat-OECD.
- c. Metadata describing reference and imputed basic heading PPPs. Reference PPPs are PPPs that are used for basic headings for which no prices were collected by design. Imputed basic heading PPPs are those computed for countries not able to furnish complete prices to allow PPPs at the GDP level to be estimated. The choice of reference PPPs or the degree of imputation varied by region. The metadata provides a mapping of imputed PPPs either by the reference source or the imputation method used.

### B. Global Data

- a. Ring national annual average prices. These are the prices submitted for consumer goods and services by the 18 Ring countries for the Ring list. The housing, government, equipment, and construction price and quantity data used for regional comparisons were also used for the Ring comparison. These data have been archived with the regional price and quantity data. The exception is the price and quantity data for the Eurostat-OECD Ring countries which are archived with the Ring prices for consumer products.
- b. Ring product specifications. The Ring product specifications for consumer goods and services that are archived are from the Ring list; the Ring product specifications for equipment and construction that are archived are from the global list. The complete specifications for government are documented in chapter 8 of the *ICP Handbook*; chapter 10 provides the specifications for housing.
- c. Basic heading global PPPs and expenditure weights for all countries including Eurostat-OECD. Since not all regions submitted PPPs for all 155 basic headings, it was necessary to combine basic headings across all regions before between-region PPPs were computed and aggregated. There are 132 basic heading PPPs calibrated to the US = 1 and expenditure weights.
- d. Metadata. The metadata provides the mapping of the regional PPPs and expenditure weights to the global set of 132 basic headings and includes PPPs based upon reference data. There will not be a one-to-one correspondence between all regional and global basic headings.

### **III Data that can be accessed and authority to grant access**

Two kinds of data access will be allowed. First, the World Bank, regional, and national coordinating organizations may commission research to evaluate the methodology and suggest where improvements can be made for the next round of the ICP. If this work is done by consultants under contract to these organizations or the World Bank, they should be given access to the full set of regional and global prices and quantity data as well as basic heading PPPs and expenditures providing they sign an a declaration of confidentiality as defined in in Section B in Annex A.

The second level of access comes from individuals or organizations outside the ICP framework requesting access for research purposes. This type of access should be allowed since it increases the knowledge base on the uses of PPPs and may provide valuable input for future improvements in data quality.

- A. Access to regional data. Requests for region-specific prices and basic-heading PPPs and expenditure weights will be forwarded to the relevant regional coordinator for approval unless the region delegates that authority to the World Bank. Researchers requesting access to regional data will be required to follow the procedures outlined in Annex A. In this context, researchers

requesting access to Eurostat and OECD data will have to follow their established policies and procedures.

- B. Access to Ring data.
  - a. Ring prices. Ring prices will be made available only to those under contract with the World Bank, regional or national offices for the specific intent to review and improve the Ring methodology.
  - b. Ring product specifications. A generic version without brand names will be prepared for the ICP website.
  
- C. Access to global basic heading PPPs and expenditure weights. Researchers requesting access to these data will be required to follow the procedures outlined in Annex A.

Once a request for access has been submitted in accordance with Annex A, the World Bank will forward the request to the appropriate region(s) with a recommendation to approve or not approve the request. Approval will be granted only if the results of the project/research will contribute to the knowledge base of the PPP methodology (or a related area of research) and the data will be used only for statistical purposes.

Each region must provide a contact person and a deputy for purposes of communication related to data access requests. Regions will have ten working days to respond to each access request. A non response will be considered to be approval of the request. Regions should notify the World Bank within the time frame if they need more time to evaluate a specific request.

**Annex A. Request for Data Access and Statement of Confidentiality  
2005 International Comparison Program**

Date:

From:

To: Shaida Baidee, Director  
Development Data Group  
The World Bank  
1818 H Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20433

**Subject: Request for access to unpublished results (PPPs, expenditures and related indices) or micro data (prices, quantities, basic heading PPPs and expenditures) from the 2005 International Comparison Program.**

The following sections outline information which must accompany any request for access to **unpublished results or micro data** and define the limitations to the use of those results or micro data.

**A. Submit a written proposal to the World Bank that includes the following information:**

- a. Define the data and countries or regions for which access is requested.
- b. Detailed project description including:
  - The context of the research proposal;
  - The state of the literature on the topic;
  - Statement of expected benefits to ICP global comparisons; and/or ICP regional comparisons,
  - Expected results, intended use, and dissemination plans.
- c. Research team:
  - Brief curriculum vitae of the researchers involved in the research.

**B. Declaration of confidentiality. The responsible senior management of the organization sponsoring the researcher must include a declaration of confidentiality stating that:**

- The data will be used only for statistical purposes, and the results of the research will either be published or made available upon request.
- The data will never be disseminated in the public domain in any form and will not be provided to third parties.

- The results of the research will be published only at the aggregate level as established for the ICP global publication unless permission has been granted to publish in greater detail. For that purpose, the version of the research to be published should be provided to the World Bank prior to publication to verify compliance.
- The calculations and documentation underlying the research will be provided to the World Bank if requested.
- Non compliance to these rules will exclude the requesting organization from any further access to detailed information.