The 50th Anniversary

One of the greatest intellectual achievements in measurement is the **International Comparison Program**.

![Sir Angus Deaton](image)

Sir Angus Deaton  
2015 Nobel Laureate

- A worldwide statistical partnership, led by the World Bank under the auspices of the United Nations Statistical Commission
- Provides comparable price and volume measures of gross domestic product (GDP) and its aggregates among countries within and across regions
- Collects and compares price data and GDP expenditures to estimate and publish purchasing power parities (PPPs) of the world’s economies

**Partner organizations**

- United Nations
- International Monetary Fund
- African Development Bank Group
- OECD
- Eurostat
- ADB
- ESCWA
- UNCTAD
- ECLAC
2018 marks the 50th anniversary of the inception of the International Comparison Program (ICP) in 1968 as a joint venture of the United Nations and the University of Pennsylvania.

The ICP has come a long way and evolved into the largest statistical partnership in the world with the participation of about 200 countries, 20 global, regional and sub-regional agencies, and renowned experts.
PURCHASING POWER PARITIES

Concept and definition

PPPs measure the total amount of goods and services that a single unit of a country’s currency can buy in another country.

The PPP between countries A and B measures the amount of country A’s currency required to purchase a basket of goods and services in country A as compared to the amount of country B’s currency required to purchase a similar basket of goods and services in country B.

[Diagram showing the comparison of baskets with different prices]
National annual average prices for a selection of goods and services included in the GDP

GDP expenditures, conforming to the System of National Accounts concepts, definitions and valuation methods

- Individual consumption expenditure by households
- Individual consumption expenditure by NPISHs
- Individual and collective consumption expenditure by government
- Gross capital formation
- Balance of exports and imports