

## **MINUTES OF THE FIRST ICP INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION GROUP MEETING**

**VIRTUAL MEETING, MAY 9-10, 2016**

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### **Welcome and meeting objectives**

The first meeting of the International Comparison Program (ICP) Inter-Agency Coordination Group (IACG) was held on May 9-10, 2016 via WebEx. The main objectives of the meeting were to review the draft IACG Terms of Reference (TORs), and to discuss the global and regional plans for the ICP 2017 comparison, as per the meeting agenda provided in Annex 1.

The meeting participants included representatives from the African Development Bank (AfDB), Asian Development Bank (ADB), Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS-STAT), International Monetary Fund (IMF), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat), United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-ECLAC), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA), and the World Bank, as listed in Annex 2. The meeting was organized and chaired by the World Bank.

### **Review of the ICP Inter-Agency Coordination Group's Terms of Reference**

The draft IACG TORs, prepared by the World Bank, were reviewed and discussed. The TORs outline the roles and responsibilities of the IACG, the World Bank/Global ICP Unit, the Eurostat and OECD, regional implementing agencies, and the IMF within the ICP governance framework. Overall, the IACG welcomed the draft, and provided feedback and comments.

It was agreed that the World Bank would revise and recirculate the TORs based on the feedback received. The revised draft TORs will be subsequently included in the ICP governance framework paper, which will be circulated to the ICP Governing Board, for their review, discussion and approval.

### **Discussion of the World Bank note on the 2017 comparison**

As agreed at the ICP Next Steps Meeting held on March 10, 2016 in New York, the World Bank drafted and circulated a planning note providing a general description of the rolling survey approach, practical suggestions for the conduct of the 2017 comparison, including the related specific data requirements, and a possible scheme for future ICP comparisons.

The IACG agreed that few changes and clarifications need to be introduced to the note, including adding an annex providing the regional plans for the conduct of the 2017 comparison. The World Bank will revise the note accordingly and recirculate it to the IACG members. It was also noted that further details on the ICP 2017 survey schedules and related operational details will be discussed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> IACG meeting, scheduled for the fall of 2016.

### **Briefs from regional implementing agencies on their regional plans for the 2017 comparison**

The regional implementing agencies provided an overview of the ongoing regional activities, as well as plans for the 2017 comparison. The IACG took note on the various regional plans, and agreed that a summary survey schedule for the 2017 comparison will be included as an annex to the planning note (see above).

As for the global ICP results for the interim years, namely 2012-2016, the World Bank noted the ongoing efforts to develop an approach to link the various regional interim activities, which will be further discussed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> IACG meeting. It was also concluded that various special participation cases, such as dual-participation, singleton countries and the Pacific islands' participation, and changes in regional compositions, need to be addressed by the ICP Governing Board.

### **Collective communication efforts to better link ICP activities to the SDG indicator monitoring framework**

As noted at the ICP Next Steps Meeting, it is important to better communicate the linkages between ICP activities and the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator monitoring framework, in order to highlight the ICP's overall capacity-building role, and the importance of PPPs and PPP-based indicators within the framework. This, in turn, can help with funding raising efforts, especially in cases where there are many increased demands on donors.

On a related note, it was stressed that in order to promote the uses of PPPs and ICP data among users, including poverty economists, the ICP data access policy should strive for more openness and that all countries should be encouraged to make available more detailed disaggregated data. It is essential that researches have access to more detailed data, including at minimum access to sub-national average price data, in order to develop further uses and applications for PPPs and related indicators.

On funding, it was agreed that regional agencies would prepare regional budgets and funding plans, and the World Bank would prepare the global budget and funding plan for the ICP 2017, as was done during the preparations of the 2011 round of the ICP.

### **Dates and preparations for the next ICP Inter-Agency Coordination Group meeting**

The next IACG meeting will be held tentatively during the last week of September 2016, prior to the envisaged ICP Governing Board meeting. The agenda is foreseen to cover: i) ICP 2017 timetable and related survey schedules; ii) operational approaches and materials for the ICP 2017 comparison; iii) funding, advocacy and data access aspects; and iv) PPP applications. It was also agreed that technical experts would be invited to participate in future IACG meetings on need basis.

### **Meeting follow up actions**

The specific meeting follow up actions include:

- The World Bank to revise and recirculate the IACG TORs;
- The World Bank to revise and recirculate the ICP 2017 planning note; and
- The regional implementing agencies to prepare and provide the World Bank with details on their regional budgets and funding plans for the ICP 2017.



## 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the ICP Inter-Agency Coordination Group

May 9-10, 2016  
Virtual meeting via WebEX

### Day 1: May 9, 2016

<b>EDT (Washington DC Time)</b>	
<i>08:00 – 08:10</i>	Opening remarks
<i>08:10 – 09:00</i>	Review of the ICP Inter-Agency Coordination Group’s TORs
<i>09:00 – 10:00</i>	Discussion of the World Bank note on the 2017 comparison

### Day 2: May 10, 2016

<b>EDT (Washington DC Time)</b>	
<i>08:00 – 09:30</i>	Briefs from regional implementing agencies on their regional plans for the 2017 comparison
<i>09:30 – 09:45</i>	Collective communication efforts to better link ICP activities to the SDG indicator monitoring framework
<i>09:45 – 10:00</i>	Dates and preparations for the next ICP Inter-Agency Coordination Group meeting

## Annex 2: List of participants

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Name	Organization
Mboya Deloubassou, Gregoire	African Development Bank (AfDB)
Mouyelo-Katoula, Michel	African Development Bank (AfDB)
Joshi, Kaushal	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Capilit, Eileen	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Martinez, Arturo	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Konijn, Paulus	Eurostat
O'Hanlon, Niall	International Monetary Fund (IMF)
Kosarev, Andrey	Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS-STAT)
Koechlin, Francette	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
Skaini, Majed	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA)
Dorin, Federico	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-ECLAC)
Paz Collinao, Maria	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-ECLAC)
Cameron, Grant	World Bank Group
Hamadeh, Nada	World Bank Group
Dikhanov, Yuri	World Bank Group
Inyoung, Song	World Bank Group
Nsabimana, Maurice	World Bank Group
Rissanen, Marko Olavi	World Bank Group
Vigil-Oliver, William	World Bank Group
Yamanaka, Mizuki	World Bank Group