



International Conference of Labour Statisticians  
2 - 11 October 2013

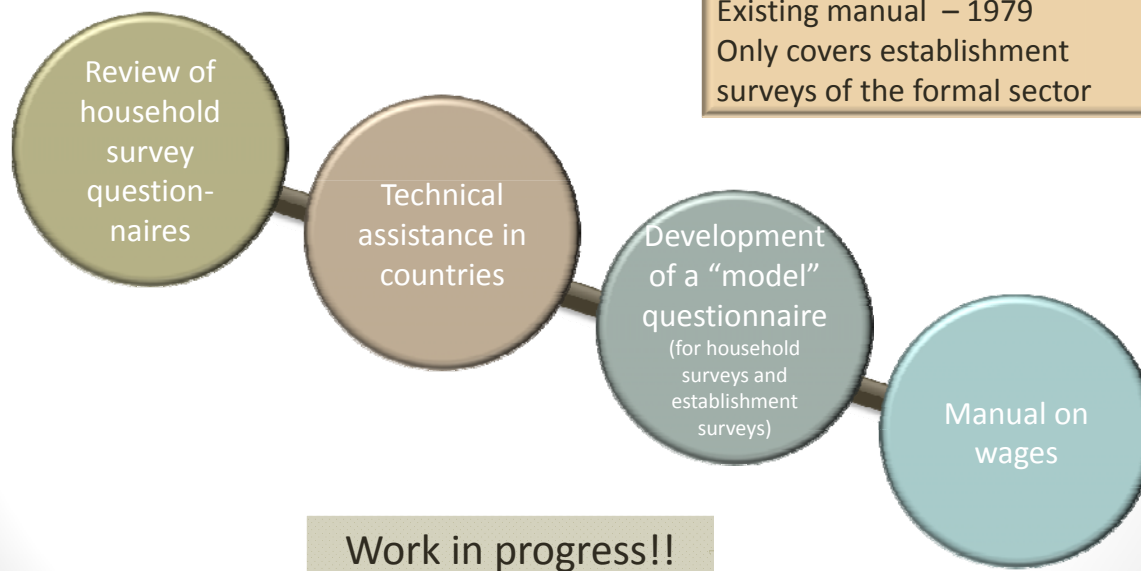
# Statistics on “wages”

## Status quo and work ahead

Department of Statistics

## Status quo

As part of the work to development a harmonized framework for wages statistics, requested by the 18<sup>th</sup> ICLS in 2008



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# Review of household survey questionnaires



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- 113 surveys, mostly LFS, no household income survey (113 countries)
  - 92 of these measure employee income
  - Only 34 surveys measure self employment mixed income
- Significant country variability in
  - Coverage of jobs, income components
  - Number of questions used
  - Type of questions used
  - Time units

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# National measures of employee income



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- Job coverage
  - Most cover both jobs
- Number of questions used
  - Itemised approach (one question for each component)
  - just one question (52%)
- Type of questions: request ...
  - Exact amounts (73%)
  - Income categories (15%)
  - Both type of questions (12%)
- Coverage of employee income components
  - All components, (excluding social security benefits)
  - Excluding statutory deductions (net income)
  - Excluding all deductions (take home pay)
- Time unit – hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, yearly wages
  - Fixed (68%) or flexible
  - Income usually received or received during the last pay period

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# National measures of self-employment income



- Number of questions used
  - Most use one question – respondent's own estimation of profits
  - The rest use a set of questions for each of the components (sales, costs, etc.)
- Coverage of components
  - Own final consumption is explicitly included only in 9 surveys
- Time units
  - Hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, yearly wages

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# Manual on the measurement of wages



- Harmonize the six international concepts of wages
  - Wage rates (12<sup>th</sup> ICLS, 1973)
  - Earnings (12<sup>th</sup> ICLS, 1973)
  - Labour cost (11<sup>th</sup> ICSL, 1966)
  - Compensation of employees (SNA 2008)
  - Employment related income (16<sup>th</sup> ICLS, 1998)
  - Income from employment (17<sup>th</sup> ICLS, 2003)
- Provide guidelines for their measurement
  - To guarantee full coverage of workers – including those in the informal sector
  - Through household and establishment surveys
  - Will need the participation from countries with experience in this field

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# Issues for discussion

- Relevance of a manual on wages
- Interest in participating in the drafting of the manual



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