Workshop on Time Use Statistics, 13-15 November 2012, Cairo
ESCWA

Convener: Neda Jafar (ESCWA)
Facilitator: Dr. Valeria Esquivel (Argentina)

Each day runs from 9am to 4.00pm
Morning: two long sessions (1 and a half hour each, with a coffee break)
Afternoon: two short sessions, including one wrap-up session.

First day

Objective: Enhance the understanding of different methodological approaches to Time Use Surveys.

Presentation of existing methodological approaches to TUS in developing countries.
Classification of Arab countries’ experiences in TU data collection by methodological approach.
Comparison of approaches’ advantages and shortcomings for applying them in the Arab countries, in terms of: suitability to illiterate populations; ease of fieldwork; potential regional comparability; potential uses; etc.

Session 1: Methodological approaches to time-use data collection Dr. Valeria Esquivel
-existing methodological approaches in Developing Countries
-criteria for comparing/judging them (suitability to illiterate populations; ease of fieldwork; potential regional comparability; potential uses; etc.)
-Typical trade-offs
-Emphasis on the relationship between methodological approaches and activity classifications (in terms of length and detail, and coding)

Session 2: Group work (warm-up session)
Objectives:
-present the approach followed by different countries using the abovementioned criteria
-present lessons learnt from existing experiences
-reach agreements on what works best for the Arabs Countries

Session 3: Presentation on Questionnaire design Dr. Valeria Esquivel
-Detailed comparison of different questionnaire designs, focusing on activity diaries: the examples of Eurostat; Tanzania; Japan.

Session 4: Wrap-up session
-agreements reached over the day; lessons learnt; basic methodological guidelines.
Day 1 outcome: Agreement and guidelines for a methodological approach for TU data collection in the Arab region (questionnaire design and main components)

See “Notes for Day 1” for theoretical background and references.

Second day
Objective: Draft Classification of Time Use Activities for Arab countries adapted from the International Classification of Time Use Activities (ICATUS)

The purposes of the Classification of Activities for TUS. Main characteristics of existing classifications. The relationship between the Classification of Activities and TUS methodological approach. Identification of Arab countries’ needs and expected results from TUS. Work groups on major divisions in order to propose an adapted classification of activities.

Session 1: Main characteristics of existing Classifications of Activities according to TUS objectives Dr. Valeria Esquivel
  - Objectives that TUS have catered for in the past, and relationship between those objectives and Activity Classification design (measuring unpaid care work, building Household Sector Satellite Accounts, measuring women’s participation in the informal sector labor force, child labour, access to care services, volunteering and civic participation, transportation, well-being indicators, etc.)

Session 2: Group Work (small group discussion)
Objectives:
  - identify key objectives for TUS in Arab Countries
  - identify context-specific characteristics for a Classification of Activities for Arab Countries
  - propose broad guidelines for an Activity Classification for TUS in Arab Countries,

Session 3: Group Work (small working groups, on major divisions based on latest ICATUS version)
Objectives:
  - produce guidelines for TUS Classification of Activities’ major divisions

Third day
(cont. from previous day)

Session 1: Wrap-up session from previous day
  - summary of agreements achieved
  - summary of main points of disagreement (if there exist)
Day 2 and 3 outcomes: Adapted Classification of Time Use Activities for Arab countries

See “Notes for Day 2” for theoretical background and references.

Session 2: New policy agendas for TUS research Dr Valeria Esquivel

Session 3: Group Work
Objectives:
-Define specific uses in the Arab countries.
-Identify contextual information, probing questions, and other characteristics of TUS that are necessary to produced valuable policy analysis.

Session 4: Wrap-up session
-Recommendations and action plan for future work.

Day 3 outcome: Draft background schedules.

See “Notes for Day 3” for theoretical background and references.