Chapter 4
ICT Measurement

ABSTRACT

The chapter discusses the ICT measurement. As the ICT plays a very crucial in all suspects of national development, the chapter reviews the framework for measuring ICT and corresponding indicators. Its presents various indices developed to measure the information knowledge, the information society, the information economy, and the e-government. The contribution of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development is highlighted. As these frameworks are used for ranking countries, there is a challenge for adaptation at the national levels.

INTRODUCTION

The standards for ICT statistics have a relatively short history, reflecting the recentness of the ICT phenomenon. The OECD, through its Working Party on Indicators for the Information Society (WPIIS), has been developing standards covering a number of aspects of information society measurement since the late 1990s, including development of concepts and model surveys (OECD, 2009, 2011, 2019). Eurostat has also been very active in this field for the last decade or so, through its annual community surveys on ICT usage (European Commission, 2015, European Information Technology Observatory, 2015).

The Eurostat and OECD model surveys on ICT use include questions on the use of e-government services (by individuals and businesses).

The Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development has an important role in several areas of internationally comparable ICT measurement. the

Partnership develops and promulgates a list of internationally comparable core ICT indicators, including the e-government indicators.

BACKGROUND

The Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development is an international, multi-stakeholder initiative that was launched in 2004 to improve the availability and quality of ICT data and indicators, particularly in developing countries. The Partnership has guided policy makers in producing ICT statistics that are crucial to informed decision-making, including through the identification of a core list of ICT indicators and methodologies to collect these indicators, by helping developing countries collect ICT statistics, particularly through capacity-building and hands-on training for national statistical offices, and by collecting and disseminating information society statistics.

The Members of The Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development are:

- International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- Statistical Institute of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural
- Organization (UNESCO)
- Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
- Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
- Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT)
- The World Bank

The work of the partnership is coordinated by a steering committee, elected every three years. The current Steering Committee is composed of ITU, UNCTAD and UIS.

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