

**Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate
Regional Development Policy Committee**

Working Party on Territorial Indicators

Draft summary record

31st meeting of the Working Party on Territorial Indicators

This document is submitted to delegates for approval.

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DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD

31st Session of the Working Party on Territorial Indicators – 7 November 2016

Item 1 Opening session

Item 1.a. Welcome by the Chair and approval 31st Session Agenda and Summary Record of the 30th Session

The Chair, Mr. Duarte Rodrigues, opened the 31st Session of the Working Party on Territorial Indicators welcoming delegates and non-member country representatives from Bulgaria, Colombia, Romania and Russian Federation. He introduced the meeting Agenda [[GOV/RDPC/TI/A\(2016\)2/REV1](#)] and Summary Record of the 30th Session [[GOV/RDPC/TI/M\(2016\)1](#)], which were both approved.

Item 1.b. Bureau designation

As per the [Rules of Procedure](#) of the Organisation (rule 15 a) and further to resignations on the part of Mr. Ioannis Firmpas (Greece), Mr. Norberto Roque Diaz de León (Mexico) and Mr. Bryan Borlik (United States), the Secretariat set a call for candidacies. The Bureau reviewed the candidacy of Mr. Francisco Vala (Portugal) received by the Secretariat and the Working Party designated the Bureau for the period of one year as follows:

Chair:	Mr. Duarte Rodrigues
Vice-Chairs:	Mr. Alessandro Alasia (Canada)
	Mr. Lewis Dijkstra (EU)
	Ms. Sylvie Marchand (France)
	Mr. Rupert Kawka (Germany)
	Mr. Giovanni Barbieri (Italy)
	Mr. Francisco Vala (Portugal)

Item 1.C. Introductory remarks by the Chair and the Secretariat

The Chair summarised WPTI activities for the biennium 2015-16, notably the launch of [Regions at a Glance 2016](#) at the Committee of the Regions of the EU Plenary meeting in June 2016; the launch of the report [Making Cities Work for All](#) at the UCLG World Congress in October 2016 in Bogota, Colombia and annual updates to the [Regional Database](#) and [Regional Well-being web tool](#). He mentioned other activities that fall between two programs of work 2016-17 such as the projects on Regional Business Demography, Lagging Regions and Productivity and the Role of Local Governments in Migrant Integration. New projects envisaged for 2017 include “Territorial Statistics for Morocco”, a follow up report to [Making Cities Work for All](#) and the project on “Governance of territorial statistics in Tunisia”, which will begin in 2017 as part of the OECD work with the Government of Tunisia to support the National Development Plan. (see Annex 1 for the full overview of projects). Countries were invited to provide the data requested through the annual questionnaire for the Regional Database by 28 November 2016. They were also invited to inform the Secretariat of their interest in participating in the [Making Cities Work for All](#) follow up project.

Item 2. Regional business demography

The Secretariat presented the results of the scoping paper [[GOV/RDPC/TI\(2016\)7](#)] and the outline of the OECD Regional Business Demography project. The presentation highlighted the methodological challenges associated with the development of a regional business demography database encompassing a

large number of OECD countries and proposed strategies for overcoming them. Professor Michael Fritsch (University of Jena) gave an overview of the most relevant use of business statistics, showing findings from recent research and commenting on the OECD scoping paper. He highlighted the existence of different types of mechanisms (competition effects, supply-side effects, direct and indirect effects) through which new business creation can affect regional development and growth in employment and emphasised the need to consider the issue of time lag through which new business formation and regional development are linked. Professor Fritsch also highlighted the role of regional characteristics (i.e. density, culture) to mediate the effects of entrepreneurship on employment. Issues to be considered are the persistency of business creation in regions over time. Research should be more oriented in investigating the issues of entrepreneurs' qualifications, the dynamics in knowledge-intensive services and the solo self-employment. Finally, he stated that business demography statistics based on establishments are crucial for the study of employment dynamics.

Delegates expressed their support for the project and its progress and there was general agreement on the research questions to be included in the forthcoming work. Interventions were as follows:

- Canada underlined that Statistics Canada provides indicators at firm level and at the national scale only. Currently they are expanding to provincial-level statistics (TL2) selecting the same indicators and methodology as the national database with headquarters located in the region of the largest employer. Canada also informed delegates about a second public database (Canadian business counts) which provides establishment-level information based on business registers. It provides a 6-digit sectoral breakdown and the size of the business unit, but no longitudinal dimension. He suggested that for the long term, the best solution would be a cross-country harmonisation on how micro data are collected.
- Germany informed that their business registers account for five million enterprises with single-units identified at the establishment level. Academic researchers are entitled to use micro-data for analysis and there is a survey providing information on the characteristics of entrepreneurs.
- Italy underlined that the most interesting questions for research using internationally comparable business demography data are on the overall effect of business dynamics on growth and on the link between headquarters and establishments (for example, an exogenous shock affecting headquarter regions might affect all regions). In order to answer these questions, statistical information at the establishment level would be necessary.
- Korea underlined that detailed information on the sectors of firms, especially for new businesses, is crucial. Such information would help co-ordinate sectoral policy also at the regional level.
- Sweden agreed on the comments made by the Italian Delegate and highlighted the existence in Sweden of data at regional level on business shrinking and expansion.
- Portugal underlined that business demography statistics are available for Portugal at TL3 level, mostly at the level of firms, with some information also available at establishment level.
- The United Kingdom commented on the very large regional differences existing in the UK regarding business dynamics (e.g. London firms are more dynamic with higher entry/exit, while other areas are more focused on large-scale entrepreneurship and therefore more stable). There is a particular interest in growth indicators of businesses.
- The EU highlighted that firm level data are better fit to study the issue of entrepreneurship in regions, especially to understand where new firms are being created.

The Chair commented on the importance of setting the right scope for the project to encompass all events of related to business demography (birth, death and survival), the potential of a comparative analysis for some specific countries on both approaches (firm and establishments) and a better understanding of the solo self-employment drivers and their impact on regional innovation and productivity. Delegates supported the development of a regional database on business demography at firm level. However, as differences between establishment and firm-level data are relevant, establishment-level indicators will be collected for a sub-set of countries to highlight the differences and analyse employment dynamics at the regional level. Information on solo self-employed will be collected where possible. The Secretariat will further develop the research questions suggested (e.g. where is entrepreneurial activity taking place? What types of firms contribute most to employment growth? What regional characteristics are more correlated with the performance of firms?). Further advancements will be discussed at the next meeting of the WPTI. Countries were invited to send the information on data included in the Annexes of the document [GOV/RDPC/TI\(2016\)7](#) to the Secretariat by 12 December 2016.

Item 3. Understanding regional productivity dynamics

The Secretariat presented a discussion on regional unit labour costs computed at the regional level for 13 EU countries with a special focus on “less-developed” regions within the project “Sound macroeconomic conditions, structural reforms and convergence in less-developed regions” [[GOV/RDPC/TI\(2016\)8](#)]. Further to the results from the OECD Regional Outlook 2016, analysis estimates regional and sectoral unit labour costs to shed further light on drivers of productivity divergence with a distinction between tradable and non-tradable sectors. Preliminary conclusions exhibit very different levels and trends in unit labour costs by sectors and regions. In southern Europe, increases in non-tradable sectors Unit Labour Costs (ULCs) outpaced tradable sectors and tradable ULCs tend to be lower, except in Eastern Europe. The next steps of the analysis will include robustness checks using different definitions of “tradable” and different weights in price imputation. It will also consider the regional link between labour productivity in tradable sectors and prices in non-tradable sectors (“Balassa-Samuelson effect”) and its cross-regional spill-overs.

Professor Bart Los (University of Groningen) presented the concept and first set of results on global value chains (GVCs) at the regional level and discussed recently developed indicators of regional participation in global and national (i.e. inter-regional) value chains. He reviewed different types of indicators, which resulted in a preference for GVC Value Added as a Share of Regional GDP. Among the advantages of this indicator are: i) it enables to capture those final products for which, on average, at least 10% of the value is contributed outside the trading bloc to which countries and regions belong (“truly globally fragmented production processes”); and ii) it determines the regional contribution to these Global Value Chains in terms of value added. Changes over time have been seen in terms of countries from which the trade takes place. It was suggested that as a further development, distance weights could be included. The next steps would include the update with the 2016 release of the input/output tables and the need of further data regarding intra-regional trade on transportation. The Secretariat will share with the WPTI further developments of the project “Sound macroeconomic conditions, structural reforms and convergence in less-developed regions” in 2017.

Item 4. Roundtable discussion: Using well-being for evidence-based policies in regions and cities

The session was introduced within the context of the OECD report [Well-being in Danish Cities](#), which provides, for the first time, a comprehensive assessment of well-being outcomes at the city scale. During the roundtable, Mr. Karsten Uno, Vice Chairman of the Committee for Regional Development of the Region of Southern Denmark, commented that international comparisons on well-being indicators are useful for the task of translating knowledge into concrete actions and broadening the perspective beyond economic growth. Ms. Lisa Mensah, Under Secretary for Rural Development in the US Department of Agriculture, shared the experience of policy designed for persistently deprived rural areas, based on measures of persistent poverty at the local level. Mr. Rupert Kawka, Senior Project Manager at the Federal

Office for Building and Regional Planning, Germany, presented evidence on the social situation within major German cities, highlighting inequality in several outcomes and discussing the statistical challenges in having comparable indicators in Germany at local and city levels. Finally, The Secretariat highlighted the possible current and future contribution of WPTI to the OECD Strategy for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) emphasising the complementarity of well-being and SDGs as tools for cities and regions to think about sustainability both now and in the future. Proposals were made to map how the Working Party's current territorial indicators fit within the SDG framework, to expand their geographical and thematic scope where relevant, and to carry out policy dialogues in interested cities and regions to measure distance to SDGs and engage citizens and stakeholders in SDG implementation [[GOV/RDPC/TI\(2016\)9](#)].

The discussion included the reporting of national experiences to foster quality of life and supporting dialogues with citizens based on well-being indicators and SDGs (e.g. Germany) and highlighting the importance of the WPTI in advancing the statistical agenda for improving international comparability of well-being indicators at the city level. Also highlighted was the need for a better co-ordination across National Statistical Offices and closer attention paid to data users. The 2017 World Statistics Congress in Marrakech (July 2017) is an important platform to discuss these issues. Countries were invited to express their interest for in-depth case studies on well-being and inclusive growth in cities and regions, building on the data and policy framework presented in the report [Making Cities Work for All](#). Delegates were invited to report back on their country's strategy on implementing the SDGs with a specific view on the responsibilities across levels of government. In particular, delegates were invited to share information on:

- how cities and regions are engaged in the monitoring and reporting process
- how they co-operate with national statistical offices
- whether countries have identified data gaps that prevent taking account of regional disparities in SDG achievements
- if they have innovative data-related initiative at sub-national level (e.g. satellite imagery, big data etc.)
- how they could support the three proposals for further action by WPTI (map indicators, expand the scope, consider policy dialogues) proposed in the document [GOV/RDPC/TI\(2016\)9](#).

Item 5. A territorial approach to migrant integration

The Secretariat introduced the new project on “The need for a territorial approach to migrant integration: the role of local authorities”. The final report is expected for Q4 2017. This project is structured under three main pillars: i) 9 case studies and lessons learnt from city experiences (Amsterdam, Athens, Barcelona, Berlin, Glasgow, Gothenburg, Rome, Sarcelles/Paris and Vienna); ii) Statistical work on migration and migrant integration in OECD regions at NUTS2 (TL2) and, if possible, NUTS3 (TL3) level (in collaboration with the International Migration Division of ELS); and iii) A final report gathering data and recommendations for better migrant integration in regions. The study aims to understand the challenges of contemporary migration for cities, the governance of migrant inclusion, as well as policies and initiatives of cities to include migrants. Ms. Cecile Thoreau, Directorate on Employment, Labour and Social Affairs (ELS), presented the work done by the International Migration Division (IMD) on migrant integration at the national level, which was the first broad international comparison across all EU and OECD countries on the outcomes for immigrants and their children. This work provides 34 key indicators on the integration of immigrants and their children, covering the demographic characteristics of the immigrants, as well as five main areas of integration (employment, education and skills, social inclusion, civic engagement and social cohesion). She discussed possible indicators to be developed at the subnational level (TL2 and TL3) together with GOV.

It was suggested to use micro-data from the Labour Force Surveys (LFSs) to produce the indicators instead of other sources such as the census. In countries such as the Slovak Republic or Hungary it would be difficult to find many first or even second-generation immigrants which would result in small sample sizes; therefore, the importance of defining thresholds for the sample sizes. Also pointed out was the need to be careful with the classification of immigrants based on their country of origin, since in a European country, well-being outcomes are higher for migrants that come from another EU country than for migrants that come from a non-EU country. If both EU and non-EU migrants are pooled together these indicators will hide substantial inequalities. Finally, it was mentioned that there is a trade-off between bringing the analysis to a precise regional level and keeping a reasonable sample size, for which one solution would be to focus on large Functional Urban Areas (FUAs).

The Secretariat highlighted that these differences in outcomes are not only due to the origin of the migrant, but also to educational outcomes and institutions; for example, the educational attainment of EU-migrants it's more likely to be recognised in other European countries than that of the non-EU migrants, resulting in a faster and easier integration into the labour market for the former. The Secretariat underlined the importance of the nine case studies for data analysis; since some of the case studies will take place in large metropolitan areas, it might be possible to collect very specific indicators for these cities that go beyond the typical educational and labour market indicators. The case study analysis will also help overcome the limitations of the indicators that can be produced at the regional level using LFSs. Canada commented that census type data is used to provide information about tax returns to track the economic performance of immigrants. This data also allows indicators for small geographical areas to be obtained. On the issue of the European refugee crisis, the Chair questioned whether there was a strategy to address statistical issues associated with these kinds of immigrants; for example, since they are not allowed to work, and are therefore not part of the labour force, they would be excluded from the analysis on labour market outcomes. The Secretariat drew attention to a module in the LFS 2014 which allows categories of migrants to be identified (e.g. refugees vs. job seekers). There is the intention to include this module in LFS in the future since there is some evidence that it takes refugees longer to close the gap in well-being outcomes than native-born or migrant workers, however this kind of analysis may not be feasible in the context of this project. The Chair concluded that the project adequately integrates the quantitative and qualitative analyses, where the first step is to produce cross-country indicators to obtain an overview of the situation of migrants in OECD regions and then going deeper into the analysis of migrant integration through the nine case studies. The Secretariat will be producing indicators on migrant integration for TL2 regions in collaboration with ELS/IMD. Further developments will be presented at the next meeting of the WPTI.

The Chair closed the meeting reminding delegates that the next meeting would take place in the week of 15 May 2017.

ANNEX 1

WPTI FINAL OUTPUTS 2015-2016

	OUTPUTS
REGIONS AT A GLANCE (2016)	<p>Launch at the CoR Plenary meeting on 15 June http://www.oecd.org/regional/oecd-regions-at-a-glance-19990057.htm</p> <p>Annual update of Regional Database (June 2016) and Update of the Well-Being web-tool http://www.oecdregionalwellbeing.org/</p> <p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scorus Conference (June, Lisbon) • Growth Dept. Sweden (Stockholm, 29 November)
MAKING CITIES WORK FOR ALL	<p>Launch at the UCLG World Congress, 13 September 2016 http://www.oecd.org/regional/making-cities-work-for-all-9789264263260-en.htm</p> <p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN-Habitat III (Quito, October 2016) • Bruegel Workshop on Inclusive Growth (Brussels, October 2016) • EU seminar on regional well-being indicators (Brussels, October 2016) • European Regional Science Association Conference (Vienna, August 2016) • 7th European Evaluation Conference (Sofia, June 2016) • Workshop on Institutions, individual behavior and economic outcomes (June 2016)
WELL-BEING IN DANISH CITIES	<p>Launch at the WPTI meeting, 7 November 2016 http://www.oecd.org/regional/well-being-in-danish-cities-9789264265240-en.htm</p>
GUIDANCE ON USING WELL-BEING INDICATORS IN REGIONS AND CITIES	<p>OECD-Carnegie UK Trust Report “Sharpening our Focus” (published in September 2016)</p> <p>http://www.carnegieuktrust.org.uk/project/wellbeing-cities-regions/</p>
FUNCTIONAL URBAN AREAS	<p>Functional urban areas in Colombia (OECD Working Paper published in November 2016)</p>

WPTI ACTIVITIES 2016-2017

	INTERMEDIATE OUTPUTS	FINAL DELIVERY
REGIONAL BUSINESS DEMOGRAPHY (2016-17)	Set up of Scientific Committee Presentation of issue paper on methodology (November 2016) Data collection and analysis (December 2016- May 2017)	New indicators in the RDB (2017) and Regions at a Glance 2018 Report on business demography and entrepreneurship in regions (2017)
UPDATE OF REGIONAL DATABASE	Received data from 19 OECD countries, plus Russia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Lithuania and South Africa. New indicators (# countries) on emergency care and education accessibility (12), international trade (10), housing prices (8), labour cost (9), governance (12)	Late deliveries should be received by 15 th of November
UPDATE OF THE METROPOLITAN DATABASE	New variables on income levels and income inequality Updates for Europe and US on land use	
LAGGING REGIONS AND PRODUCTIVITY	Estimates of regional unit labour costs (November 2016) Regional participation in global and national value chains	Final report “Sound macroeconomic conditions, structural reforms and convergence in less-developed regions” (December 2017)
THE ROLE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN MIGRANT INTEGRATION	Collection of indicators at the regional level (jointly with OECD/ELS) Chapter on trends at the regional level	Final report with 8 case studies (December 2017)

WPTI NEW PROJECTS STARTING IN 2017

	OUTPUTS
From divided to inclusive cities: understanding intra-city disparities	As a follow up of “Making cities work for all”, book with thematic chapters on intra-cities disparities by income, education, wealth, migration status, etc. (December 2017) – measurements and evidence Countries wanting to contribute? Possible case studies on regions and cities
TERRITORIAL STATISTICS FOR MOROCCO	2 international workshops on OECD/WPTI methods to provide territorial statistics for regional development (January and May 2017)
FUNCTIONAL URBAN AREAS	EU-OECD-World Bank commitment to a city definition based on Global Human Settlements (2018)
GOVERNANCE OF TERRITORIAL STATISTICS IN TUNISIA	Project to support the Government of Tunisia to implement the National Development Plan on the design and implementation of territorial statistics for regional development (2017-18)

ANNEX 2

**Participants list for 31st Working Party on Territorial Indicators/Liste des participants pour 31st session du Groupe de travail sur les indicateurs territoriaux -
7/11/2016 - 7/11/2016**

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