II Seminário da Classificação Nacional de Atividades Econômicas - CNAE

International Standard Classifications



Diálogo Econômico do Brasil com o Mundo



- Need for comparable data
- Objectives of the ISIC revision
- ISIC revision process
- Major changes in ISIC
- Implementation process
 - **Acceptance of ISIC**

Diálogo Econômico do Brasil com o Mundo

Need for comparable data

- Growing effects of globalization
- Need to compare data between countries for policy reasons
 - Trade data
 - Production data / enterprise demographics
- Requires comparable methods and standards that need to be followed

- A number of international standards are being revised
 - System of National Accounts (SNA)
 - Balance of Payments (BOP)
 - International recommendations for Industrial Statistics (IRIS)



- The revised standard frameworks rely on international standard classifications that are also revised
 - International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC)
 - Central product Classification (CPC)
 - International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO)

 These frameworks are being revised in a consistent way to allow comparable treatment across countries for

- Classifications
- Concepts
- Compilation methods



- Data sharing among different agencies (inside and outside the statistical domain) is facilitated through use of common standard classifications
 - Use of administrative data by statistical offices becomes more reliable



Objectives of the ISIC revision

- Relevance
 - Reflect new industries, new production patterns, new needs for economic analysis
- Comparability
 - Improve linkages to major regional classifications
- Continuity
 - Maintain close links to the previous version of ISIC

Objectives of the ISIC revision

- Main task: Balancing the three objectives
- Since ISIC will be an international standard, the process should
 - get as many countries as possible involved
 - Provide each country with the option to contribute
 - Create a classification that represents not only the view of one specific region

ISIC revision process

- Mandated by the UN Statistical Commission in 1998
 - Including mandate for ISIC Rev.3.1
- Work was coordinated by an Expert Group
- Detailed work carried out by a Technical Subgroup
- Focused work on ISIC Rev.4 started in 2001

ISIC revision process

- World-wide consultation
 - Set up in three rounds
 - Carried out through questionnaires
- Focus first on conceptual issues, then increasingly more detailed structure issues
- On average, 60-70 countries provided detailed replies

Major changes in ISIC Rev.4

- Reflects new industries and concepts
 - E.g. "Information and communication", "Waste management", "Professional activities"
- Responds more to user needs
- Provides more detail at all levels of the classification
- Provides detailed explanatory notes

Major changes in ISIC Rev.4

Increased detail

	ISIC Rev.3	ISIC Rev.4
Sections	17	21
Divisions	60	88
Groups	159	238
Classes	292	419



Il Seminário da Classificação Nacional de Atividades Econômicas - CNAE

Major changes in ISIC Rev.4

- Maintains strong link to European classification (NACE)
 - Full compatibility at all levels
- Improves comparability with North American, Australian and other classifications

- Better alignment of detailed definitions

Implementation process

- Expert Group has agreed on the following implementation schedule:
 - Adoption of revised national classifications, based on ISIC Rev.4, by 2009
 - International data reporting to begin in 2012

Application of the new classification in individual surveys and the need for backcasting depends on countries' schedules

Implementation process

- Tools assisting in the implementation are being developed
 - Correspondence tables
 - Alphabetical index
 - "Companion guide to ISIC and CPC"
 - Support forum
 - Documents on recoding of business registers, form design, backcasting

Acceptance of ISIC

- ISIC is the only activity classification applicable for world-wide comparisons
 - ISIC Rev.3 was adopted as national classification by more than 100 countries
 - Implementation took a long time
 - For ISIC Rev.4, a large number of countries is committed to adopt the new classification as soon as possible
 - By 2012, the number should exceed that of the ISIC Rev.3 implementation

Acceptance of ISIC

 With the development and adoption of CNAE 2.0, Brazil initiates the implementation process in Latin America

