Preface

The present STAT Working Paper was prepared on the occasion of the general discussion on ‘Decent Work and the Informal Economy’ during the 90th Session of the International Labour Conference (Geneva, 4-20 June 2002). It is based on data obtained from a database on employment in the informal sector, which the ILO Bureau of Statistics established in 1998 to meet an increasing demand by users for statistics on the informal sector. The database was updated in 2001. It contains official national statistics and related methodological information on employment in the informal sector for countries of Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific, and the transition countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, to the extent that data are available. Other countries were included only to the extent that the informal sector was considered to be of significant importance in these countries and official national statistics were collected on it. The ILO Bureau of Statistics wishes to thank all national statistical offices, which provided data. Without their cooperation it would not have been possible to establish and update such a database. Main users of the information contained in the database include the Key Indicators of the Labour Market (KILM) project of the ILO, the international Expert Group on Informal Sector Statistics (Delhi Group), scholars, NGOs and journalists.

Ralf Hussmanns (Senior Statistician) and Brigitte du Jeu (Statistical Assistant) were the staff members of the ILO Bureau of Statistics who were responsible for the preparation of this Working Paper.

A. Sylvester Young
Director, Bureau of Statistics
Policy Integration Department
International Labour Office
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Introduction

The present Working Paper is organised as follows. Section 2 provides some essential methodological background information on definitions and data sources. Following a description of the main features of the international statistical definition of the informal sector and its relationships with the broader concept of informal employment, the limitations of available national statistics on employment in the informal sector are outlined, especially regarding their comparability across countries.

Section 3 introduces the official national statistics on employment in the informal sector, which are presented in this Working Paper. It provides explanations regarding the structure and content of the statistical tables and related methodological descriptions of the data included in the paper. It also includes a summary analysis of the statistics highlighting their main results.

Section 4 presents a proposal by the ILO Bureau of Statistics of a strategy for further action to improve statistics on the informal economy. The proposal consists of three parts: improvement of the existing database on employment in the informal sector, methodological work on the further development of statistics on the informal economy, and a programme of technical assistance and training.


2. Definitions and data sources

2.1 International statistical definition of the informal sector

In January 1993, the Fifteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians (15th ICLS) adopted an international statistical definition of the informal sector that was subsequently included in the revised international System of National Accounts (SNA 1993). Inclusion in the SNA of the informal sector definition was considered essential as it would make it possible to identify the informal sector separately in the accounts for purposes and, hence, to quantify the contribution of the informal sector to the gross domestic product. In order to obtain an internationally agreed definition of the informal sector, which was acceptable to labour statisticians as well as national accountants, the informal sector had to be defined in terms of characteristics of the production units (enterprises) in which the activities take place (enterprise approach), rather than in terms of the characteristics of the persons involved or of their jobs (labour approach).

Employment in the informal sector then includes all jobs in informal sector enterprises or all persons who, during a given reference period, were employed in at least one informal sector enterprise, irrespective of their status in employment and whether it was their main or a secondary job.
The 15th ICLS resolution (ILO 2000) defined informal sector enterprises on the basis of the following criteria:

- They are private unincorporated enterprises (excluding quasi-corporations), i.e. enterprises owned by individuals or households that are not constituted as separate legal entities independent of their owners, and for which no complete accounts are available that would permit a financial separation of the production activities of the enterprise from the other activities of its owner(s). Private unincorporated enterprises include unincorporated enterprises owned and operated by individual household members or by several members of the same household, as well as unincorporated partnerships and co-operatives formed by members of different households, if they lack complete sets of accounts.
- All or at least some of the goods or services produced are meant for sale or barter, with the possible inclusion in the informal sector of households producing domestic or personal services in employing paid domestic employees.
- Their size in terms of employment is below a certain threshold to be determined according to national circumstances, and/or they are not registered under specific forms of national legislation (such as factories’ or commercial acts, tax or social security laws, professional groups’ regulatory acts, or similar acts, laws or regulations established by national legislative bodies as distinct from local regulations governing trade licenses or business permits), and/or their employees are not registered.
- They are engaged in non-agricultural activities, including secondary non-agricultural activities of enterprises in the agricultural sector.

The relevant paragraphs of the resolution are reproduced as Annex 3 of this paper.

The term ‘enterprise’ is used in this context in a broad sense, referring to any unit engaged in the production of goods or services for sale or barter. It covers not only production units, which employ hired labour, but also production units that are owned and operated by single individuals working on own account as self-employed persons, either alone or with the help of unpaid family members. The activities may be undertaken inside or outside the enterprise owner’s home, and they may be carried out in identifiable premises or without fixed location. Accordingly, self-employed street vendors, taxi drivers, home-based workers, etc. are all considered enterprises. Still, it may well be possible that persons engaged in very small-scale or casual activities may not report in official statistical surveys that they are self-employed, or employed at all, even though their activity falls within the above definition of an enterprise. Similar problems may arise in respect of persons, whose activity is at the borderline between self-employment and wage employment, such as outworkers, subcontractors or free-lancers. Women are more likely than men to be engaged in such activities.

The 15th ICLS provided considerable flexibility to countries in defining the informal sector. Some elements of flexibility were desired, because the 15th ICLS resolution was the first international recommendation ever adopted on the topic, and its main purpose was to provide technical guidelines for the development of informal sector statistics at the national level. Other elements of flexibility arose from lack of agreement among the conference delegates. However, flexibility reduces international comparability. To address this problem, the international Expert Group
on Informal Sector Statistics (Delhi Group) formulated a set of recommendations for the harmonisation of national definitions of the informal sector on the basis of the framework set by the international definition.

The harmonised definition of the informal sector resulting from the recommendations by the Delhi Group is based on the largest common denominator of currently used national definitions. It leads to a rather narrowly defined subset of the informal sector, for which countries should be able to make internationally comparable data available: private unincorporated enterprises (excluding quasi-corporations), which produce at least some of their goods or services for sale or barter, have less than five paid employees, are not registered, and are engaged in non-agricultural activities (including professional or technical activities). Households employing paid domestic employees are excluded (Central Statistical Organisation/India 1999).

The ILO Bureau of Statistics requested national statistical offices to provide data on employment in the informal sector according to the harmonised definition of the Delhi Group, in addition to data based on their national definitions of the informal sector. However, as can be seen from Tables 1a and 2a in Annex 1, only very few countries have actually provided data according to the harmonised definition.

In parallel to the growth of the informal sector in many countries, a rise in various forms of non-standard, atypical, alternative, irregular, precarious, etc. forms of employment can be observed. From the beginning, it had been clear that an enterprise-based definition of the informal sector would not be able to capture all dimensions of such a trend towards an increasing informalisation of employment.

*Informal employment* has been defined in the ILO report on ‘Decent Work and the Informal Economy’. It refers to the total number of informal jobs, whether carried out in formal sector enterprises, informal sector enterprises, or households, or to the total number of persons engaged in informal jobs during a given reference period. It comprises:

1. own-account workers and employers who have their own informal sector enterprises;
2. contributing family workers, irrespective of whether they work in formal or informal sector enterprises;
3. employees who have informal jobs, whether employed by formal sector enterprises, informal sector enterprises, or as paid domestic workers by households;
4. members of informal producers’ cooperatives; and
5. persons engaged in the own-account production of goods for own final use by their household (e.g. subsistence farming, do-it-yourself construction of own dwellings).

Employees are considered to have informal jobs if their employment relationship is not subject to standard labour legislation, taxation, social protection or entitlement to certain employment benefits (advance notice of dismissal, severance pay, paid annual or sick leave, etc.) for reasons such as: non-declaration of the jobs or the employees (e.g., clandestine workers, illegal immigrant workers); casual jobs or
jobs of a limited short duration; jobs with hours of work or wages below a specified threshold; employment by unregistered enterprises or by persons in households; or jobs where the employee’s place of work is outside the premises of the employer’s or customer’s enterprise (ILO 2002).

Until now, the ILO Bureau of Statistics has collected statistics from national sources only on employment in the informal sector, which was the concept used by the ILO and for which an internationally agreed statistical definition existed. Nevertheless, some data on other forms of informal employment are available in many countries, including developed countries, for many of which the concept of the informal sector is of limited relevance. However, such data have not yet been collected by the ILO, because the informal economy or informal employment are new concepts presently being developed. The data presented in this Working Paper thus refer to employment in the informal sector only.

2.2 Limitations of available national statistics

Since the adoption of the 15th ICLS Resolution concerning statistics of employment in the informal sector in 1993, many national statistical offices have made major efforts to develop or improve official statistics on the informal sector, often in spite of scarce resources for statistics in general and for informal sector statistics in particular. The publication of the present Working Paper is a reflection and acknowledgement of these efforts. Given that most of the data presented in this Working Paper are based on national definitions of the informal sector, it follows, however, that they are not always fully in line with the international statistical definition adopted by the 15th ICLS, nor comparable across countries.

Data comparability problems result especially from the following factors:

• differences in the concepts on which the statistics are based;

• differences in the branches of economic activity covered, particularly in respect of the inclusion or exclusion of agricultural activities;

• differences in the criteria used to define the informal sector, for example, employment size of the enterprise or establishment versus non-registration of the enterprise;

• different cut-offs used for the employment size criterion;

• the inclusion or exclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households, or of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by their household;

• the inclusion or exclusion of persons with a secondary job in the informal sector;

• the inclusion or exclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities;

• differences in data sources;
• differences in geographic coverage.

A major deviation from the international definition is that many countries do not yet use the criterion of legal organisation of the enterprise (private unincorporated enterprise). Often, countries also do not use the criterion of lack of a complete set of accounts in their national statistical definitions of the informal sector. In other words, the data provided often refer to employment in small or micro-enterprises, including small corporations and quasi-corporations. This leads to an overestimation of the size of the informal sector. In fact, not all countries for which data are shown in this paper utilise the concept of ‘informal sector’ in their statistics. Some use alternative concepts that, albeit closely related, are not identical, such as small and micro-enterprises, household economic activities, mobile activities, unregistered employment, or specific combinations of the variables ‘status in employment’, ‘industry’ and ‘occupation’.

In order to draw the attention to such differences, countries have been grouped in the statistical tables of Annex 1 according to the concept, on which their statistics are based: informal sector, small or micro-enterprises, or other related concepts.

Of equal importance is the fact that some countries include small-scale or unregistered agricultural activities in their definition of the informal sector, while others do not. Since the vast majority of agricultural activities in most countries are undertaken in rural areas, such differences have a larger effect on the international comparability of data for rural areas than for urban areas.

Many of the countries for which data are presented in this Working Paper use the criterion of non-registration of the enterprise, either alone or in combination with other criteria such as small size or type of workplace location, to define the informal sector. In most cases the criterion refers to the non-registration of the enterprise as a corporation, or to its non-registration with the tax authorities or for statistical purposes. Many other countries use small size as a criterion to define the informal sector, either alone or in combination with criteria such as the non-registration of the enterprise or the type of workplace location. The criterion of non-registration of the employees of the enterprise is used only by some of the transition countries of Central and Eastern Europe to define unregistered employment.

The cut-off points for the size criterion differ among countries. However, there are very clear preferences for cut-off points such as \( \less 5 \) or \( \leq 10 \). While most countries use the same size limit for all branches of economic activity, some use different size limits for different branches. Some differences among countries also exist depending on whether the size criterion is applied to each establishment or to the enterprise as a whole, and whether it refers to the total number of persons engaged or to the number of employees.

National practices concerning the treatment of paid domestic employees employed by households vary widely across countries and data sources, as they do concerning the treatment of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by their household. The international comparability of data for women is more affected by
differences in the treatment of these groups of persons than is the international comparability of data for men.

Available national data on persons employed in the informal sector often refer only to those whose main or only job/activity is in the informal sector and exclude those with a secondary job/activity in the informal sector, such as farmers or government employees. As the number of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal sector can be quite large in some countries, data that exclude persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal sector should be considered as a lower-bound estimate of total employment in the informal sector.

Another deviation from the international definition of the informal sector is that a number of countries exclude all persons engaged in professional and technical occupations from their statistics, irrespective of the characteristics of their enterprises.

Not only the definitions, but also the data sources for employment in the informal sector vary among countries that produce these statistics. The most common sources are labour force surveys and special informal sector surveys, based on a mixed household and enterprise survey approach, or establishment censuses and surveys. Other sources include multi-purpose household surveys, household income and expenditure surveys, surveys of household economic activities or household industries, small or micro-enterprise surveys, and official estimates prepared by the countries themselves. In some cases, the data are ILO estimates taken from the Regional Database for Latin America and the Caribbean or prepared by the ILO Bureau of Statistics in cooperation with the countries concerned.

In many countries, data on employment in the informal sector are available for urban areas only. In some countries, the scope of surveys providing informal sector employment data does not even cover all urban areas but is restricted to major metropolitan areas or capital cities. Because of national differences in the characteristics that distinguish urban from rural areas, the distinctions between them are not amenable to a single definition that would be applicable to all countries. In the absence of an international standard definition, the data for the statistical tables in Annex 1 are based on national definitions of urban areas established by countries in accordance with their own needs.

For the time being, only few countries dispose of statistics on the informal sector, which are available on a regular basis at frequent intervals (e.g., every year). In most countries, data on the informal sector are collected on an ad-hoc basis or with a less than annual periodicity. For this reason, time series data are relatively scarce.

More detailed methodological information on the statistics presented in this Working Paper can be found in the country-specific descriptions attached as Annex 2.
3. Statistics on employment in the informal sector

3.1 Structure of the statistical tables in Annex 1

*Table 1a* provides data on persons employed in the informal sector (or small or micro-enterprises, or related other concepts) for countries, which have data sources covering the whole country (i.e. urban as well as rural areas). The figures shown in Table 1a refer to the latest year, for which data were reported to the ILO. The first three columns of Table 1a show the number of persons employed in the informal sector (or small or micro-enterprises, or related other concepts), broken down by sex if data were available. Taking these figures, the next column shows the sex ratio, i.e. how many women per 100 men work in the informal sector (or small or micro-enterprises, or related other concepts). A ratio below 100 means that less women than men are employed in the informal sector, while a ratio above 100 means that more women than men are employed in the informal sector. This form of presentation was chosen because it reveals gender-specific differences more clearly than the indicator normally used, which is the number of women employed in the informal sector as a percentage of the total number of persons (both sexes) employed in the informal sector. The last three columns of Table 1a show employment in the informal sector (or small or micro-enterprises, or related other concepts) as a percentage of total employment, by sex (if data were available). This is a ratio relating the number of persons (men, women) employed in the informal sector to the total number of employed persons (men, women) in the same geographic areas, branches of economic activity, age groups, etc. For some countries, however, data were unavailable on the total number of employed persons that would have permitted the calculation of a ratio.

Countries are presented in Table 1a in the following order:

- Countries are first grouped according to the concept on which their statistics are based: informal sector (harmonised definition); informal sector (national definition); small or micro-enterprises (national definition); related other concepts.
- Within each of these blocks, countries are then grouped by region: Africa; Latin America; Asia; Europe; Oceania.
- Finally, countries are ranked by alphabetical order within regions.

*Table 1b* provides data for 12 Latin American countries on the number of persons employed in small or micro-enterprises as a percentage share of total employment. The definition of small or micro-enterprises is a harmonised definition used by the ILO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean to disseminate statistics on employment in the informal sector. The definition is given in the footnote to Table 1b. Similar to the data in Table 1a, the data in Table 1b cover the whole country (urban as well as rural areas) and refer to the latest year for which they are available. No breakdown by sex was available for the data in Table 1b.

*Table 2a* has the same structure and form of presentation as Table 1a but, in addition to a breakdown by sex, shows the differences between urban and rural areas as regards employment in the informal sector (or small or micro-enterprises, or related other concepts), for countries where such information is available. Countries, for which statistics on employment in the informal sector (or small or micro-enterprises,
or related other concepts) were available for urban areas only, have also been included in Table 2a.

Similar to Table 1b, Table 2b provides data for urban areas only for the same 12 Latin American countries on the number of persons employed in small or micro-enterprises as a percentage share of total employment. The data refer to the latest year for which they are available and are broken down by sex. The definition of small or micro-enterprises is again a harmonised definition used by the ILO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean to disseminate statistics on employment in the informal sector, but it is different from the one used for the data in Table 1b. The definition is given in the footnote to Table 2b.

For the few countries where such information was available, Table 3 shows how many of the persons employed in the informal sector had their only or main job/activity in the informal sector, and how many of them had a secondary job/activity in the informal sector (i.e. their main job/activity outside the informal sector). The data in Table 3 are broken down by sex and geographic areas to reveal differences between men and women and between urban and rural areas as regards the extent to which persons are engaged in the informal sector as their secondary jobs/activities.

Table 4a corresponds to Table 1a, but presents time series of data on employment in the informal sector (or small or micro-enterprises, or related other concepts) for those countries, for which time series data covering the whole country (urban as well as rural areas) are available.

Table 4b presents a time series of the data shown in Table 1b.

Table 5a corresponds to Table 2a. It shows time series of data on employment in the informal sector (or small or micro-enterprises, or related other concepts) for those countries, for which time series data broken down by urban versus rural areas were available. Countries, for which time series data on employment in the informal sector (or small or micro-enterprises, or related other concepts) were available for urban areas only, have also been included in Table 5a.

Table 5b presents a time series of the data shown in Table 2b.

3.2 Methodological descriptions in Annex 2

Annex 2 contains methodological information relating to the statistics presented in Tables 1a, 2a, 3, 4a and 5a. Such information is useful for users of the statistics, as it can help them to evaluate the data for analytical purposes and draw appropriate conclusions from them.

For each country and data source, a brief methodological description has been prepared, which includes the following information (as far as reported to the ILO by the national statistical offices concerned):

- Title of the source;
• Year(s) for which data are available in the database of the ILO Bureau of Statistics;
• Type of the source (e.g. household sample survey, establishment sample survey, mixed household and enterprise survey);
• Periodicity of the source (e.g. irregular, annual, quarterly);
• Reference period to which the data refer;
• Definition of the informal sector (or small or micro-enterprises, or related other concepts);
• Geographic coverage of the data;
• Industry coverage of the data: branches of economic activity covered, inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households, inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by their household;
• Persons covered: age limits, status-in-employment groups, inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal sector, inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and 3).

The order of presentation of the methodological descriptions follows the order of presentation of the corresponding data in the statistical tables.

3.3 Main results

The importance of the informal sector as a provider of employment and income opportunities varies among countries. This can be seen from the considerable differences that exist between countries regarding the percentage of employment in the informal sector (or small or micro-enterprises or related other concepts) in total employment. The percentage ranges from under 10 % to over 90 %. Among the regions covered, countries of West and East Africa, South and South-East Asia and parts of Latin America tend to have the highest shares percentages (Tables 1a to 2b).

In half of the countries, for which data by sex are available, the share of employment in the informal sector (or small or micro-enterprises or related other concepts) in total employment is higher for women than for men. This means that in all these countries informal sector activities are relatively more important for women as a source of employment and incomes than they are for men. In some countries (Botswana, urban Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Mali, South Africa, Brazil, urban Isl. Rep. of Iran, Thailand, urban Croatia and urban Ukraine), even in absolute numbers there are more women than men employed in the informal sector (or related other concepts).

In the other countries, the informal sector seems to be more dominated by men. This may be explained by several factors. Women are often engaged in agricultural activities which many countries exclude from the scope of informal sector or similar surveys for various practical reasons. Some informal sector activities (e.g. construction, rickshaw driving, cart pulling) are physically so demanding that they can hardly be performed by women. Other informal sector activities (e.g. street vending, shoe shining, repair services, taxi driving) may not be socially acceptable for women in some cultures. Women are sometimes engaged in very small-scale or irregular informal sector activities, which are more likely than other activities to go unreported in statistical surveys. Also, women are often engaged in home-based
activities at the borderline between self-employment and wage employment; unless such home-based workers consider themselves as self-employed persons, or work as employees of an informal enterprise, they are not covered by the enterprise-based definition of the informal sector. Finally, following the recommendation by the 15th ICLS, most countries exclude producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the household from their informal sector statistics. Many countries also exclude paid domestic employees of private households. Both are activities in which women prevail. This points to the need to collect statistics not only on employment in the informal sector, but also on other forms of informal employment.

In all African and Asian countries, for which separate data are available for urban and rural areas, the number and percentage of persons employed in the informal sector (or small or micro-enterprises or related other concepts) tend to be higher in rural areas than in urban areas, both for men and women (Table 2a). Exceptions are Ethiopia (harmonised definition), South Africa, India (men, national definition), and Kyrgyzstan. For Ethiopia, the exclusion of agriculture according to the harmonised definition leads to the number of men, and the percentage of men and women, employed in the informal sector becoming higher for urban than for rural areas.

For men in India (national definition) and for men and women in South Africa, the number of persons employed in the informal sector is higher in urban than in rural areas, but the share of informal sector employment in total employment is lower for urban than for rural areas. In other words, although in absolute terms more people working in the informal sector live in urban areas, in relative terms the informal sector plays a more important role as a source of employment and income in rural areas. The same picture can be observed for both sexes in Mexico, Peru, Latvia (harmonised definition), the Russian Federation (national definition) and Turkey. For Costa Rica and Poland, it can be observed only for women. In the remaining countries (Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia – national definition, Russian Federation - harmonised definition), the informal sector is more important in urban than in rural areas, both in absolute and in relative terms. The same holds true for men in Costa Rica, while the opposite applies to men in Poland.

For most countries included in Table 2a, urban-rural differences are larger for women than for men. Particularly high numbers of women per 100 men working in the informal sector can be found for urban areas of the Isl. Rep. of Iran, and for rural areas of Ethiopia and Mali. Particularly low numbers of women per 100 men working in the informal sector can be observed for urban as well as rural areas of Turkey, and for urban areas of Bangladesh and India.

The examples of the (few) countries, that were able to provide data for Table 3, show that in some cases a substantial number of persons are employed in the informal sector as their secondary job or activity: more than 10% of the persons employed in the informal sector in Barbados, and more than 20% of those in Lithuania and in the Russian Federation. Men seem to be somewhat more likely than women to work in the informal sector as a secondary job or activity and, with the exception of Lithuania, persons in rural areas more likely than persons in urban areas.

In many countries, statistical information on the informal sector is collected on an ad-hoc rather than regular basis, and survey methodologies change over time so
that the statistics cannot be compared. Only relatively few countries have comparable
time series of data that permit the evolution over time of informal sector employment
to be analysed. In the case of all countries, for which such comparable time series are
available, except Thailand and Poland, the data show an increase in employment in
the informal sector (or small or micro-enterprises or related other concepts), for both
men and women (Paraguay: only for women). In some countries (e.g. Bolivia, Costa
Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Slovakia), however, employment in the informal sector or
small or micro-enterprises has started to decrease again during the most recent years,
for which data are available, at least as a percent of total employment. While in some
countries (e.g. Mali, Argentina, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru,
Venezuela, Thailand – related other concepts) the participation of women in informal
sector employment has increased more rapidly than that of men, this was not the case
in other countries (e.g. Benin, Tanzania, South Africa, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador,
Honduras, Lithuania) (Tables 4a to 5b). However, as can be seen from Table 5b for
Latin American countries, the inclusion of agriculture in the statistics may affect the
results considerably.

It appears that in African countries and Indonesia the number of persons
employed in the informal sector (or related other concepts) has increased more rapidly
in rural areas than in urban areas (Table 5a). Particularly high increases can be
observed for men in rural areas of Mali. By contrast, in the transition countries of the
former Soviet Union and in Thailand the increase was stronger in urban than in rural
areas. For rural areas, there was sometimes even a decrease in these countries. In
Poland, the number of men and, hence, the total number of persons in unregistered
employment decreased more in urban than in rural areas, while the number of women
in unregistered employment decreased more in rural than in urban areas.

4. Improving statistics on the informal economy: Proposal by the
ILO Bureau of Statistics of a strategy for further action

Section 2.2 of this Working Paper indicated a number of limitations of the
currently available statistics. As statistics represent an important tool for evidence-
based research and policy-making, there is a need to make more and better statistics
on the informal economy available. The ILO could make an important contribution to
this end, provided the necessary resources can be found. A strategy for further action
is outlined below. It consists of three elements, which are closely inter-related: the
improvement of the existing database on employment in the informal sector,
methodological work on the further development of statistics on the informal
economy, and a programme of technical assistance and training.

4.1 Database improvement

In order to collect and disseminate a wider range of available national statistics
on the informal economy than at present, the database on employment in the informal
sector already established by the ILO Bureau of Statistics should be enlarged and
regularly updated. The statistical indicators to be collected and published, as well as
their breakdowns, need to be determined and specified in taking into account the
information needs of data users within the ILO and from the outside. These should
include not only data on employment in the informal sector, but also data on other forms of informal employment (outside the informal sector).

More detailed methodological information on these statistics should be collected as needed for a comprehensive evaluation of their quality. Such information would also be needed to harmonise, to the extent possible, available national data as a basis for preparing methodologically sound global and regional estimates.

In order to reach a wide audience of users, the database should be made accessible via the Internet in a user-friendly form.

4.2 Methodological work

While international recommendations regarding the statistical measurement of employment in the informal sector already exist (ILO 2000), for the time being there are no such internationally agreed guidelines for the statistical measurement of other forms of informal employment.

The ILO report on ‘Decent Work and the Informal Economy’ (ILO 2002) proposed a definition of informal employment that needs to be tested, and eventually refined, for statistical purposes. In cooperation with interested national statistical offices, methodological studies on the statistical measurement of informal employment should be undertaken, aimed at specifying operational criteria for application of the definition, and identifying relevant sub-categories of informal jobs as targets for analysis and policy-making. The results of such studies would provide useful inputs towards the development of an internationally accepted statistical definition of informal employment, which includes its component sub-categories.

4.3 Technical assistance and training

Improvement of a database storing currently available national data, and methodological work on the further development of statistics on the informal economy, alone will not be sufficient to obtain more and better statistics on the informal economy. They would have to be accompanied by a programme of technical assistance and training aimed at helping countries, which currently do not have statistics on the informal economy, to develop such statistics, and at assisting countries, which already have statistics on the informal economy, to improve the quality of these statistics, including their international comparability.

As a promising start of such a programme, it would be useful to concentrate on the inclusion or redesign, in existing labour force surveys, of questions relating to the criteria for the identification of persons employed in the informal sector and in other forms of informal employment, their characteristics, and their conditions of employment and work.

To support the programme of technical assistance and training, methodological guidelines (e.g. in form of a manual) for the collection of data on the informal economy should be prepared, based on international recommendations and current best practices.
References


Table 1a: Persons employed in the informal sector: selected countries, urban and rural areas, latest available year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number in 1000</th>
<th>Women per 100 men</th>
<th>Percent of total employment (1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Informal sector (harmonised definition)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>3 256.2</td>
<td>918.8</td>
<td>2 337.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbados</td>
<td>1998</td>
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Source: ILO Bureau of Statistics on the basis of official national data.

(1) In the same geographic areas, branches of economic activity, age limits, etc. Tanzania: Percent of total employment including agriculture.
Table 1b: Persons employed in small or micro-enterprises (harmonised definition) (1) in percent of total employment:
Latin-American countries, urban and rural areas, latest available year

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Source: ILO Regional Database for Latin America and the Caribbean.

(1) All own-account workers (excluding professionals and technicians) and unpaid family workers, and employers and employees working in establishments with less than 5 or 10 persons engaged, depending on the available information. Paid domestic workers are excluded. Agriculture is excluded.
## Table 2a: Persons employed in the informal sector: selected countries, urban vs. rural areas, latest available year

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### Informal sector (national definition)

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Source: ILO Bureau of Statistics on the basis of official national data.

(1) In the same geographic areas, branches of economic activity, age limits, etc.
Table 2b: Persons employed in small or micro-enterprises (harmonised definition) (1) in percent of total employment: Latin-American countries, urban areas, latest available year

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Source: ILO Regional Database for Latin America and the Caribbean.

(1) All own-account workers (excluding professionals and technicians) and unpaid family workers, and employers and employees working in establishments with less than 6 persons engaged. Paid domestic workers are excluded. All branches of economic activity, including agriculture.
Table 3: Persons employed in the informal sector - only/main vs. secondary job/activity in the informal sector: selected countries, urban vs. rural areas, latest available year

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Sex</th>
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<th>Rural areas</th>
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<td>of which</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>with only or main job/activity in the informal sector (1)</td>
<td>with secondary job/activity in the informal sector (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1000 1000 %</td>
<td>1000 1000 %</td>
<td>1000 1000 %</td>
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<td>20.4 19.8 97.1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Women</td>
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<td>0.9 3.1 19.1</td>
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<td>4.6 2.4 139.0</td>
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<td>193.8 151.9 78.4</td>
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Source: ILO Bureau of Statistics on the basis of official national data.

(1) Including persons who have several jobs/activities which are all in the informal sector.
(2) Main job/activity outside the informal sector.
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<th>Country</th>
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Source: ILO Bureau of Statistics on the basis of official national data.

(1) In the same geographic areas, branches of economic activity, age limits, etc.
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Source: ILO Regional Database for Latin America and the Caribbean.

(1) All own-account workers (excluding professionals and technicians) and unpaid family workers, and employers and employees working in establishments with less than 5 or 10 persons engaged, depending on the available information. Paid domestic workers are excluded. Agriculture is excluded.
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Source: ILO Bureau of Statistics on the basis of official national data.

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Source: ILO Regional Database for Latin America and the Caribbean.

(1) All own-account workers (excluding professionals and technicians) and unpaid family workers, and employers and employees working in establishments with less than 6 persons engaged. Paid domestic workers are excluded. All branches of economic activity, including agriculture.
Informal sector (national definition)

Benin
1992, 1999

1. Source
1.1 Source title: Enquête sur les unités économiques du secteur informel urbain [Survey of Economic Units in the Urban Informal Sector]
1.2 Type of source: Establishment sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: 1 month
2. Reference period: Informal sector: Included are all economic units which are mobile or which have a semi-fixed location, plus those economic units with a fixed location which have one or more of the following characteristics: lack of formal accounts, non-inclusion in the register of commerce, or non-registration with the OBSS (Office Béninois de Sécurité Sociale).
3. Definition: Informal sector employment: Persons working in unincorporated enterprises which are owned by households, do not keep a complete set of accounts and employ less than 5 paid employees. Domestic servants and other private household workers are included but separately identified.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Cotonou, Porto-Novo, Parakou, Abomey, Bohicon, Djoubou, Kandi, etc...
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the<br>yes
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: No age limit.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and yes

Botswana
1995/96

1. Source
1.1 Source title: Labour Force Survey
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: The last 7 days prior to the interview.
2. Reference period: Informal sector employment: Persons working in unincorporated enterprises which are owned by households, do not keep a complete set of accounts and employ less than 5 paid employees. Domestic servants and other private household workers are included but separately identified.
3. Definition: Informal sector employment: Persons working in unincorporated enterprises which are owned by households, do not keep a complete set of accounts and employ less than 5 paid employees. Domestic servants and other private household workers are included but separately identified.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture excluded
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: 12 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and
Cameroon 1993
1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Enquête 1-2-3 sur l'emploi et le secteur informel à Yaoundé [1-2-3 Survey on Employment and the Informal Sector in Yaoundé]
   1.2 Type of source: Mixed household & enterprise survey, integrated design
   1.3 Periodicity:
   2. **Reference period**
   3. **Definition**: Informal sector: Production units without statistical number (SCIFE no.).
4. **Coverage**
   4.1 Geographic: Yaoundé
   4.2 **Industry coverage**
      4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
      4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: 
      4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
      4.3 **Persons covered**
         4.3.1 Age limits: 10 years and over.
         4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
         4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
         4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

Ethiopia 1999
1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Labour Force Survey
   1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity: Every 5 years.
2. **Reference period**
   The last 7 days prior to the interview.
3. **Definition**: Informal sector: Unincorporated enterprises, with no book of accounts, mainly engaged in market production, with less than 10 persons engaged and not registered as companies or cooperatives; also included enterprises/activities which have no license.
4. **Coverage**
   4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
   4.2 **Industry coverage**
      4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
      4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
      4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
      4.3 **Persons covered**
         4.3.1 Age limits: 10 years and over.
         4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
         4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: no
         4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and yes
Ghana
1997
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Core Welfare Indicator Survey
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity:

2. Reference period
3. Definition: Informal sector employment: Persons who defined themselves as being in the informal sector at the time of the survey.

4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the

4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: 15 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

Madagascar
1995
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Enquête 1-2-3 [1-2-3 Survey]
1.2 Type of source: Mixed household & enterprise survey, integrated design
1.3 Periodicity:

2. Reference period: April.
3. Definition: Informal sector: Production units without statistical number and/or without formal written accounts.

4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Antananarivo.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture excluded
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households:
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the

4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: 10 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and
Mali
1989
1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Enquête nationale sur les activités économiques des ménages (secteur informel) [National Survey on Household Economic Activities (Informal Sector)]
   1.2 Type of source: Mixed household & enterprise survey, modular design
   1.3 Periodicity:
2. **Reference period**
3. **Definition:**
   Informal sector employment: Own-account workers excluding professionals; employers with less than 10 employees excluding professionals; employees (including apprentices) and unpaid family workers working in unincorporated enterprises.

4. **Coverage**
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 **Industry coverage**
   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture excluded
   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
   4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
4.3 **Persons covered**
   4.3.1 Age limits: 6 years and over
   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

Niger
1995
1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Enquête nationale sur le secteur informel [National Informal Sector Survey]
   1.2 Type of source: Mixed household & enterprise survey, independent design
   1.3 Periodicity:
2. **Reference period**
3. **Definition:**
   Informal sector: Enterprises owned and operated by households or household members which do not keep accounts or which do not submit accounts to any administration or institution (statistics, taxes or

4. **Coverage**
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 **Industry coverage**
   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture excluded
   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
   4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
4.3 **Persons covered**
   4.3.1 Age limits: 6 years and over
   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and
South Africa
1999
1. Source
1.1 Source title : October Household Survey
1.2 Type of source : Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity : Annual.
2. Reference period
The last 7 days prior to the interview.
3. Definition : Informal sector: Business activities which are not registered.
Registration refers to registration under :
- tax (VAT) requirements
- professional groups' regulatory acts or similar acts
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the yes
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits : 15 to 65 years old.
4.3.2 Status in employment
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and yes
2001
1. Source
1.1 Source title : Labour Force Survey
1.2 Type of source : Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity : Annual.
2. Reference period
The last 7 days prior to the interview.
3. Definition : Informal sector: Business activities which are not registered.
Registration refers to registration under :
- tax (VAT) requirements
- professional groups' regulatory acts or similar acts
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity All
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the yes
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits : 15 to 65 years old.
4.3.2 Status in employment All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and yes
Tanzania
1990/91

1. Source
1.1 Source title: Labour Force Survey
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity:
2. Reference period: 1 week.
3. Definition:
   Informal sector employment: Persons employed in privately-owned enterprises having not more than 5 paid employees. Included are persons engaged in activities undertaken at a market place, in a temporary structure, on a footpath, in the street or in another open place, as well as domestic servants of private households. Excluded are persons employed in registered cooperatives, professional-type enterprises (e.g. doctor's or lawyer's practices) and in enterprises using high technology or having other 'formal'

4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Tanzania Mainland
4.2 Industry coverage:
   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agricultural, livestock and fishing activities excluded
   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
   4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
   4.3 Persons covered:
   4.3.1 Age limits: Operators: 15 years or more, others: 10 years or more.
   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

1991

1. Source
1.1 Source title: National Informal Sector Survey
1.2 Type of source: Mixed household & enterprise survey, independent design
1.3 Periodicity:
2. Reference period: Operators: 12 months; Others: 1 month.
3. Definition:
   Informal sector: Activities which are privately owned and employing not more than 5 paid employees. Included are activities undertaken at a market place, in a temporary structure, on a footpath/in the street or in another open place. Excluded are registered cooperatives, professional-type activities (e.g. doctors, lawyers), activities using high technology or having other 'formal' characteristics, and domestic servants of private households.

4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Tanzania Mainland
4.2 Industry coverage:
   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agricultural activities included in urban areas only
   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
   4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
   4.3 Persons covered:
   4.3.1 Age limits: 14 years and over for operators.
   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and
1995

1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Dar es Salaam Urban Informal Sector Survey
   1.2 Type of source: Mixed household & enterprise survey, independent design
   1.3 Periodicity:

2. **Reference period**
   Operators: 12 months; Others: 1 month.

3. **Definition**
   Informal sector: Private unincorporated enterprises without complete sets of accounts and with less than 6 employees (manufacturing, construction, mining and quarrying: less than 11 employees) employed in the activity. All or part of the products meant for sale. Domestic workers included if they consider themselves as self-employed business operators.

4. **Coverage**
   4.1 Geographic: Dar es Salaam.
   4.2 Industry coverage
   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture included only if undertaken as supplementary income-earning activities of the household and located in Dar es Salaam
   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
   4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the no
   4.3 Persons covered
   4.3.1 Age limits: 5 years and over for operators.
   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

**Zimbabwe**

1986/87

1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Labour Force Survey
   1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity:

2. **Reference period**
   The week prior to the interview.

3. **Definition**
   Informal sector employment: Persons working in unregistered establishments.

4. **Coverage**
   4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
   4.2 Industry coverage
   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
   4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the yes
   4.3 Persons covered
   4.3.1 Age limits: 15 years and over.
   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

1993 & 1994

1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Indicator Monitoring - Labour Force Survey
   1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity:

2. **Reference period**
   Informal sector employment: Persons working in establishments which are not registered or licensed.

3. **Definition**
   4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
   4.2 Industry coverage
   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
   4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the yes
   4.3 Persons covered
   4.3.1 Age limits: 15 years and over.
   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and
Barbados
1997/98
1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Informal Sector Survey
   1.2 Type of source: Mixed household & enterprise survey, independent design
   1.3 Periodicity: Irregular.

2. **Reference period**
3. **Definition**: Informal sector: Unincorporated or unregistered enterprises, without a complete set of accounts, and with less than 6 persons engaged.

4. **Coverage**
   4.1 Geographic: Whole country.

Brazil
1994
1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Pesquisa de Economia Informal Urbana [Urban Informal Economy Survey]
   1.2 Type of source: Mixed household & enterprise survey, independent design
   1.3 Periodicity: Pilot survey.

2. **Reference period**
3. **Definition**: Informal sector: Unincorporated enterprises with 5 or less employees. Market destination of products.

Brazil
1997
1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Pesquisa de Economia Informal Urbana [Urban Informal Economy Survey]
   1.2 Type of source: Mixed household & enterprise survey, independent design
   1.3 Periodicity: Every 5 years.

2. **Reference period**
3. **Definition**: Informal sector: Unincorporated enterprises employing 5 or less employees and producing for sale.
Mexico
1989
1. Source 1.1 Source title: Encuesta Nacional de Economía Informal [National Survey of Informal Economy]

1.2 Type of source: Mixed household & enterprise survey, modular design
1.3 Periodicity: One time.
2. Reference period The week prior to the interview.

4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic Cities with more than 100,000 inhabitants.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity Agriculture excluded
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: Employers: 12 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and yes

1992 to 1998

1.2 Type of source: Mixed household & enterprise survey, modular design
1.3 Periodicity: Annual estimates.
2. Reference period The week prior to the interview.
3. Definition: Informal sector: Unincorporated enterprises which are owned by households, produce all or parts of their goods or services for sale, and have 16 or less persons engaged (manufacturing) or 6 or less persons engaged (other branches of economic activity). Excluded are paid domestic workers and

4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic National.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity Agriculture, mining & petrol extraction, electricity, gas and water supply services excluded.
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: Employers: 12 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and yes
1998 - 2000
1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Encuesta Nacional de Empleo Urbano (National Urban Employment Survey)
   1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity: Quarterly.

2. **Reference period**
The week prior to the interview.

3. **Definition**
Informal sector employment: Employers, own-account workers, employees and unpaid family workers working in unincorporated enterprises of small size.

4. **Coverage**
4.1 Geographic: 44 main cities.

4.2 **Industry coverage**
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture, mining and quarrying, electricity, gas and water excluded.
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the: no

4.3 **Persons covered**
4.3.1 Age limits: 12 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and): no

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Georgia
1998
1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Labour Force Survey
   1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity: Annual.

2. **Reference period**
June.

3. **Definition**
Informal sector employment: Self-employed persons (employers and own-account workers) working in unregistered or seasonal enterprises as their main or secondary activity, excluding agriculture in rural

4. **Coverage**
4.1 Geographic: Whole country

4.2 **Industry coverage**
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture excluded in rural areas.
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the: yes

4.3 **Persons covered**
4.3.1 Age limits: 12 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment: Employers and own-account workers.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and): yes

1999
1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Informal Sector Survey
   1.2 Type of source: Mixed household & enterprise survey, modular design
   1.3 Periodicity: Quarterly.

2. **Reference period**
June.

3. **Definition**
Informal sector employment: Self-employed persons (employers and own-account workers) working in unregistered or seasonal enterprises as their main or secondary activity, excluding agriculture in rural

4. **Coverage**
4.1 Geographic: Whole country

4.2 **Industry coverage**
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture excluded in rural areas.
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the: yes

4.3 **Persons covered**
4.3.1 Age limits: No age limit.
4.3.2 Status in employment: Employers and own-account workers.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and): yes
India
2000
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Survey on non-agricultural enterprises in the informal sector
1.2 Type of source: Mixed household & enterprise survey, independent design
1.3 Periodicity: The last month.
2. Reference period
3. Definition: All unincorporated proprietary and partnership enterprises producing all or some of their goods or services for sale were defined as informal sector enterprises.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture, electricity, gas and water excluded.
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the: no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: No age limit.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and 1996
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Balance of Labour Forces
1.2 Type of source: Official estimates
1.3 Periodicity: Annual
2. Reference period
3. Definition: Informal sector employment: Own-account workers and unpaid family workers engaged in the production of goods or services without official statistical registration.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Mining & quarrying, electricity, gas & water, and financing, insurance, real estate and business services excluded.
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the: yes
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: Men aged 16 to 63 years; Women aged 16 to 58 years.
4.3.2 Status in employment: Own-account workers and unpaid family workers.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and no

Kazakhstan
1994 & 1995
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Sample Surveys on Hidden Activities
1.2 Type of source: Establishment sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Annual
2. Reference period
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture, Manufacturing, Construction, Trade, Transport
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the: no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: No age limit.
4.3.2 Status in employment: Own-account workers and unpaid family workers.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and no
Kyrgyzstan
1994
1. **Source**
   1.1 **Source title:** Social-Demographic Survey
   1.2 **Type of source:** Household sample survey
   1.3 **Periodicity:**

2. **Reference period**
3. **Definition:** Informal sector employment: Self-employed persons not registered with the tax authorities and the persons working for them.

4. **Coverage**
4.1 **Geographic:** Whole country.
4.2 **Industry coverage**
   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Electricity, gas & water excluded
   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
   4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the

4.3 **Persons covered**
   4.3.1 **Age limits:** No age limit.
   4.3.2 **Status in employment:** All groups.
   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: no
   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

Nepal
1998/99
1. **Source**
   1.1 **Source title:** Nepal Labour Force Survey
   1.2 **Type of source:** Household sample survey
   1.3 **Periodicity:**

2. **Reference period**
   The 12 months prior to the interview.
3. **Definition:** Informal sector: Unincorporated or unregistered economic units, which employ less than 10 paid

4. **Coverage**
4.1 **Geographic:** Whole country.
4.2 **Industry coverage**
   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture excluded
   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
   4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the

4.3 **Persons covered**
   4.3.1 **Age limits:** 15 years and over.
   4.3.2 **Status in employment:** All groups.
   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: no
   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and yes
Pakistan
1992
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Labour Force Survey - Pilot Study
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Pilot study.

2. Reference period

3. Definition: Informal sector employment: Persons working in unincorporated enterprises (excluding quasi-corporations) owned by own-account workers irrespective of the size of the enterprise, or by employers with less than 10 persons engaged.

4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Urban areas of Punjab and North West Frontier Provinces.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture excluded.
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the household: no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: All groups.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal sector: All groups.
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and 3): All groups.

1. Source
1.1 Source title: Labour Force Survey
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Pilot study.

2. Reference period

3. Definition: Informal sector: All household unincorporated enterprises owned and operated by own-account workers, irrespective of the size of the enterprise; Household unincorporated enterprises owned and operated by employers with less than 10 persons engaged. Excluded are all household unincorporated enterprises engaged in agricultural activities or wholly engaged in non-market production.

4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Federally administered tribal areas excluded.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture excluded.
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the household: no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: 10 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal sector: All groups.
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and 3): All groups.
Philippines
1995
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Urban Informal Sector Survey
1.2 Type of source: Mixed household & enterprise survey, independent design
1.3 Periodicity: The 12 months prior to the interview.
2. Reference period
3. Definition: Informal sector: Unincorporated private enterprises with less than 10 persons engaged in the (main) activity/establishment and without a complete set of accounts. Domestic workers are included if they consider themselves as self-employed business operators. Enterprises not employing any employee are excluded if they engage in contract work for other enterprises on the basis of contracts made as individuals remunerated at time rates or receiving specific employee benefits.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: National Capital Region.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: No age limit.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and yes

Turkmenistan
1999, 2000
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Formal Statistics, 1999; Selective Inspection, March 2000
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Once.
2. Reference period
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture, mining, construction, trade, restaurants and hotels.
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits:
4.3.2 Status in employment: Own-account workers.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and no
Latvia
1996
1. Source 1.1 Source title : Unregistered Employment
1.2 Type of source : Official estimates
1.3 Periodicity :
2. Reference period
3. Definition : Informal sector employment: Persons working in active enterprises which are not included in the business register and not covered by statistical surveys.

4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity All
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the yes
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits : 15 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and yes

Lithuania
1997
1. Source 1.1 Source title : Labour Force Survey
1.2 Type of source : Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity :
2. Reference period
3. Definition : Informal sector: Small private non-registered enterprises, which have employees working without legal contracts, do not pay contributions to social security funds, and sell miscellaneous goods and services in the market.

4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity All
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households:
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits : 14 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and
1998
1. Source 1.1 Source title: Labour Force Survey
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Bi-annual.
2. Reference period: September.
3. Definition: Informal sector: Small private non-registered enterprises, which have employees working without legal contracts, do not pay contributions to social security funds, and sell miscellaneous goods and services in the market.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture only
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the

4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: 14 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment: Own-account workers, unpaid family workers and employees.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

1999 - 2000
1. Source 1.1 Source title: Labour Force Survey
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Bi-annual.
2. Reference period: April.
3. Definition: Informal sector: Small private non-registered enterprises, which have employees working without legal contracts, do not pay contributions to social security funds, and sell miscellaneous goods and services in the market.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the

4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: 14 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment: Own-account workers and unpaid family workers.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and yes

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
1999
1. Source 1.1 Source title: Labour Force Survey
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Annual
2. Reference period: April.
3. Definition: Informal sector: Small private non-registered enterprises, which have employees working without legal contracts, do not pay contributions to social security funds, and sell miscellaneous goods and services in the market.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the

4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: 15 to 80 years old.
4.3.2 Status in employment
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and
Poland
1998
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Survey on Unregistered Employment
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Irregular.
2. Reference period
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: 15 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and yes

Russian Federation
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Population Survey on Employment Problems (Labour Force Survey)
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Quarterly.
2. Reference period: November.
3. Definition: Informal sector: All production units being part of the households sector or unincorporated enterprises which produce goods and services for sale to the market, which are not registered as legal entity or have no legal status.
Excluded are finance -industrial groups, unit investment trusts, representations and branches irrespective of the fact that these organizations have no rights of legal entity.
Farms registered as legal entity are not included in informal sector; the informal sector includes only those farms the heads of which are registered as individual entrepreneurs without forming a legal entity.
Persons engaged in entrepreneurial activity without forming a legal entity or on an individual basis, irrespective of having or not state registration as employers, belong to the informal sector.
Persons providing professional or technical services (physicians, notaries, auditors, architects, etc.) are included in the informal sector if they are engaged in entrepreneurial activity without forming a legal entity.
Persons providing paid services for households (housemaids, watchmen, drivers, governesses, nurse-maids, family cooks, family secretaries, etc.) are included in the informal sector irrespective of their status in employment.
Enterprises of households undertaking agricultural or related activities are included in the informal sector if their production is intended for sale to the market.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: 15 to 72 years old.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and yes
Slovakia
1994 to 1999
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Informal Sector Employment
1.2 Type of source: Official estimates
1.3 Periodicity: Annual.
2. Reference period
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture excluded
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the yes
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: No age limit.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and yes

Turkey
2000
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Household Labour Force Survey
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Quarterly.
2. Reference period
3. Definition: Informal sector: All non-agricultural economic units which are unincorporated (establishments whose legal position is individual ownership or simple partnership), pay lump sum tax or no tax at all and work with less than 10 persons engaged. The figures cover only own-account workers and employers.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture excluded
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the: no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: 15 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment: Own-account workers and employers.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and: yes
Ukraine
1997
1.
Source 1.1 Source title: Labour Force Survey
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Quarterly.
2. Reference period: 1 week.
3. Definition: Informal sector employment: Employees hired on the basis of a gentlemen's agreement and employed by individuals or private unincorporated enterprises with less than 6 persons engaged; employers and own-account workers (self-employed persons) operating unregistered enterprises; unpaid family workers working for individuals or private unincorporated enterprises with less than 6 persons engaged; and persons exclusively engaged in individual subsidiary agriculture who sell all or part of their produce.

4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: 15 to 70 years.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and yes
Kenya
1999
1.
Source 1.1 Source title: Micro and Small Enterprise Survey
1.2 Type of source: Mixed household & enterprise survey
1.3 Periodicity:
2. Reference period
3. Definition: Small or micro-enterprises: Establishments with less than 10 persons engaged.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture excluded
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits:
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and
Mauritius
1992, 1997
1.
Source 1.1 Source title: Census of Economic Activities
1.2 Type of source: Establishment/economic census
1.3 Periodicity: Every five years.
2. Reference period Units with fixed place: 1 month; itinerants units: 1 week.
3. Definition: Small or micro-enterprises: Establishments with less than 10 persons engaged and units operating without
fixed location.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture, electricity, gas & water excluded
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households:
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: No age limit.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and
Senegal
1987 to 1996
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Directorate of Forecasts and Statistics
1.2 Type of source: Official estimates
1.3 Periodicity:
2. Reference period
3. Definition: Small or micro-enterprises: Small units producing and distributing goods and services which are not included in the sampling frame for "modern" formal enterprises.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture excluded
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: 
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: No age limit.
4.3.2 Status in employment: Employers, own-account workers and employees.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

Tunisia
1981, 1997
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Enquête nationale sur les activités économiques [National Survey of Economic Activities]
1.2 Type of source: Establishment sample survey
1.3 Periodicity:
2. Reference period: 12 months.
3. Definition: Small or micro-enterprises: Enterprises with less than 10 persons permanently engaged in the enterprise. Activities without fixed location are not covered.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Excluding villages with less than 200 inhabitants.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Manufacturing (excluding slaughtering and oil-works), trade (excluding pedlars) and services.
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households:
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: All groups.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and
Uganda
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Uganda National Household Survey
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity:
2. Reference period
3. Definition: Persons working in household enterprises or in establishments with less than 5 persons engaged.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All except electricity, gas & water and communication
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: 7 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

Argentina
1996 to 2000
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Encuesta Permanente de Hogares [Continuous Household Survey]
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Half-yearly.
2. Reference period: May or October.
3. Definition: Persons working in establishments with 5 or less persons engaged. Excluded are employers, own-account workers and unpaid family workers engaged in professional occupations.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: 28 main urban agglomerations.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture excluded
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: No age limit.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

Bolivia
1996-1999
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Encuesta Nacional de Hogares [National Household Survey]
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Annual.
2. Reference period: November.
3. Definition: Persons working in establishments with 4 or less persons engaged.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Cities with 2,000 and more inhabitants.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: 10 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and
Colombia
1984 to 2000

1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Encuesta Nacional de Hogares [National Household Survey]
   1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity: Annual.

2. **Reference period**: The week prior to the interview.

3. **Definition**: Own-account workers except professionals (e.g. doctors, lawyers, dentists, engineers); paid domestic workers; unpaid family workers; and employers and employees working in enterprises with 10 or less persons engaged. Excluded are government employees.

4. **Coverage**
   4.1 Geographic: 10 metropolitan areas.
   4.2 Industry coverage
   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
   4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the yes

4.3 **Persons covered**
   4.3.1 Age limits: 12 years and over.
   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and no

Costa Rica
2000

1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Encuesta de hogares de propósitos múltiples
   1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity: Quarterly.

2. **Reference period**: One week.

3. **Definition**: All employees, own-account workers (excluding administratives, professionals and technicians), unpaid family workers and employers working in establishments with less than 5 persons engaged.

4. **Coverage**
   4.1 Geographic: Whole country
   4.2 Industry coverage
   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture excluded
   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
   4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the: no

4.3 **Persons covered**
   4.3.1 Age limits: 12 years and over.
   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: no
   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and no
Chile
1997
1. Source 1.1 Source title : Encuesta Nacional del Empleo [National Employment Survey]
1.2 Type of source : Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity :
2. Reference period
3. Definition : Persons working in establishments with 5 or less persons engaged.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity Agriculture excluded
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits : 15 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and no

Ecuador
1990 to 1997
1. Source 1.1 Source title : Encuesta Urbana de Empleo, Desempleo y Subempleo [Survey of Employment, Unemployment and Underemployment in Urban Areas]
1.2 Type of source : Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity : Annual.
2. Reference period 1 week.
3. Definition : Persons working in establishments with 5 or less persons engaged.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic Excluding Galapagos.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity Agriculture, mining & quarrying, and electricity, gas & water excluded.
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits : 5 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and no

Jamaica
1996
1. Source 1.1 Source title : Micro and Small Enterprise Survey
1.2 Type of source : Mixed household & enterprise survey, independent design
1.3 Periodicity :
2. Reference period
3. Definition : Small or micro-enterprises: Businesses operated by persons who either work alone or with unpaid family help (own-account workers) and businesses operated by employers who employ less than 10 workers (excluding themselves).
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity Agriculture excluded
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households:
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits : No age limit.
4.3.2 Status in employment All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and
Nicaragua
2000
1.
Source 1.1 Source title : Encuesta de Hogares MITRAB
1.2 Type of source : Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity : Quarterly.
2. Reference period April.
3. Definition : All own-account workers (excluding professionals), employers, employees and unpaid family workers working in enterprises with less than 5 persons engaged. Public sector excluded.

4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic 8 main cities.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity All
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the yes
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits : No age limit.
4.3.2 Status in employment All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and no

Paraguay
1996-1999
1.
Source 1.1 Source title : Encuesta de Hogares [Household Survey]
1.2 Type of source : Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity : Annual.
2. Reference period The last 7 days prior to the interview.
3. Definition : Employers and employees working in enterprises with 5 or less persons engaged, plus all own-account workers and all unpaid family workers. Public sector employees, professionals and technicians are

4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic Urban
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity Agriculture excluded
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits : 10 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and no

Peru
1984 to 1997
1.
Source 1.1 Source title : Encuesta de Hogares - Lima Metropolitana [Household Survey - Lima Metropolitan]
1.2 Type of source : Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity :
2. Reference period The week prior to the interview.
3. Definition : Persons working in private enterprises with 4 or less persons engaged in all branches of economic activity other than manufacturing, and with 9 or less persons engaged in manufacturing.

4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic Lima Metropolitan.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity Agriculture, mining & quarrying excluded.
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits : 14 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and no
1996 & 1997

1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Encuesta Nacional de Hogares y Encuesta de Hogares Lima Metropolitana [National Household Survey and Household Survey Lima Metropolitan]
   1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity:

2. **Reference period**

3. **Definition**: Persons working in private enterprises with 4 or less persons engaged in all branches of economic activity other than manufacturing, and with 9 or less persons engaged in manufacturing.

4. **Coverage**
   4.1 Geographic: Urban
   4.2 Industry coverage:
      4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture, mining & quarrying excluded.
      4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
      4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the

   4.3 Persons covered:
      4.3.1 Age limits: 14 years and over.
      4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
      4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal
      4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

1999

1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Encuesta especializada de Empleo [Specialised Employment Survey]
   1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity: Annual.

2. **Reference period**

3. **Definition**: All own-account workers (excluding administratives, professionals and technicians) and unpaid family workers, and employers and employees working in establishments with less than 5 persons engaged.

4. **Coverage**
   4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
   4.2 Industry coverage:
      4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
      4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
      4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the yes

   4.3 Persons covered:
      4.3.1 Age limits: 14 years and over.
      4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
      4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
      4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

Uruguay

1988

1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Censo Económico Nacional [National Economic Census]
   1.2 Type of source: Establishment/economic census
   1.3 Periodicity:

2. **Reference period**

3. **Definition**: All own-account workers (excluding professionals and technicians) and unpaid family workers, and employers and employees working in establishments with less than 5 or 10 persons engaged, depending on the available information.

4. **Coverage**
   4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
   4.2 Industry coverage:
      4.2.1 Branches of economic activity
      4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
      4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the

   4.3 Persons covered:
      4.3.1 Age limits:
      4.3.2 Status in employment
      4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal
      4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and
1. **Source**  
1.1 Source title: Encuesta Continua de Hogares [Continuous Household Survey]
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity:

2. **Reference period**

3. **Definition**: Employers and employees working in enterprises with less than 10 persons engaged, plus all own-account workers (excluding professionals) and all unpaid family workers.

4. **Coverage**

   4.1 Geographic: Cities with more than 900 inhabitants.

   4.2 Industry coverage

   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All

   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no

   4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the

   4.3 Persons covered

   4.3.1 Age limits: 14 years and over for operators.

   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.

   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal

   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

4. **Coverage**

   4.1 Geographic: Cities with more than 900 inhabitants.

   4.2 Industry coverage

   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All

   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no

   4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the

   4.3 Persons covered

   4.3.1 Age limits: 14 years and over for operators.

   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.

   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal

   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

4. **Coverage**

   4.1 Geographic: Cities with more than 5,000 inhabitants.

   4.2 Industry coverage

   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All

   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no

   4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the

   4.3 Persons covered

   4.3.1 Age limits: 14 years and over.

   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.

   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal

   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

1996

1. **Source**  
1.1 Source title: Encuesta Continua de Hogares [Continuous Household Survey]
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity:

2. **Reference period**

3. **Definition**: Persons working in enterprises with less than 6 persons engaged.

4. **Coverage**

   4.1 Geographic: Cities with more than 900 inhabitants.

   4.2 Industry coverage

   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All

   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no

   4.3 Persons covered

   4.3.1 Age limits: 14 years and over for operators.

   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.

   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal

   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

1997

1. **Source**  
1.1 Source title: Encuesta Continua de Hogares [Continuous Household Survey]
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity:

2. **Reference period**

3. **Definition**: Own-account workers, employers and employees working in enterprises with less than 5 persons engaged, unpaid family workers.

4. **Coverage**

   4.1 Geographic: Cities with more than 5,000 inhabitants.

   4.2 Industry coverage

   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All

   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no

   4.3 Persons covered

   4.3.1 Age limits: 14 years and over.

   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.

   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal

   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

1998 to 2000

1. **Source**  
1.1 Source title: Encuesta Continua de Hogares [Continuous Household Survey]
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity:

2. **Reference period**

3. **Definition**: Own-account workers, employers and employees working in enterprises with less than 5 persons engaged, unpaid family workers.

4. **Coverage**

   4.1 Geographic: Cities with more than 5,000 inhabitants.

   4.2 Industry coverage

   4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All

   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no

   4.3 Persons covered

   4.3.1 Age limits: 14 years and over.

   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.

   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal

   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and


Venezuela
1994 to 2001

1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Encuesta de Hogares por Muestreo [Household Sample Survey]
   1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity: Half-yearly.

2. **Reference period**
   The week prior to the interview.

3. **Definition**
   Persons working in enterprises with 4 or less persons engaged.

4. **Coverage**
   4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
   4.2 **Industry coverage**
      4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
      4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
      4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the enterprises: no

4.3 **Persons covered**
   4.3.1 Age limits: 15 years and over.
   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal sector: no
   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and 1997): no

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Thailand
1988 to 2000

1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Labour Force Survey
   1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity: Quarterly.

2. **Reference period**
   1 month.

3. **Definition**
   Persons working in establishments with less than 10 persons engaged, excluding employees of government enterprises and governmental organizations.

4. **Coverage**
   4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
   4.2 **Industry coverage**
      4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
      4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
      4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the enterprises: no

4.3 **Persons covered**
   4.3.1 Age limits: 13 years and over.
   4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
   4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal sector: no
   4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and 1997): yes
Côte d'Ivoire
1996

1. Source
1.1 Source title: Enquête sur les dépenses des ménages “Prix-UEMOA” [Household Expenditure Survey]
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: March-July.
2. Reference period
3. Definition: Employers, own-account workers, unpaid family workers, apprentices and unskilled labourers working in enterprises owned by themselves or by a member of their household or family.

4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Abidjan.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: 16 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

Gambia
1993

1. Source
1.1 Source title: Household Economic Survey
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity:
2. Reference period
3. Definition: Household economic activities, not operating a bank account, on the basis of the informal nature of the work of the head of household.

4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Farming excluded
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households:
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: 12 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal: no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and
Kenya
1992 to 1995

1. Source
   1.1 Source title: Small-scale Enterprise Survey
   1.2 Type of source: Establishment sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity:

2. Reference period
3. Definition: Activities undertaken in market stalls, underdeveloped plots, street pavements or without fixed location.

4. Coverage
   4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
   4.2 Industry coverage
      4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Manufacturing, construction, trade, hotels & restaurants, transport, repair, personal services.
      4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households:
      4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
      4.2.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and

Zambia
1993

1. Source
   1.1 Source title: Household Budget Survey - Priority Survey
   1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity:

2. Reference period
3. Definition: Employees or employers working in private sector enterprises with less than 5 employees and not entitled to paid leave and social security scheme (excluding professionals); self-employed persons; unpaid family workers; and small-scale farmers.

4. Coverage
   4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
   4.2 Industry coverage
      4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
      4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households:
      4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the
      4.3 Persons covered
         4.3.1 Age limits:
         4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
         4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal
         4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and


Azerbaijan
2001
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Household Sample Survey in Trade Sector
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Irregular.
2. Reference period February.
3. Definition: Own-account workers in unincorporated enterprises owned by households engaged in street vending.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Trade
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the household: no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: No age limit.
4.3.2 Status in employment: Own-account workers.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal sector: no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and 3): no

Bangladesh
1992/93
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Annual Establishment and Institution Survey
1.2 Type of source: Establishment sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Annual.
2. Reference period: 1 month.
3. Definition: Household-based economic activities.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Manufacturing, trade, hotels & restaurants and selected services.
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the household: no
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: No age limit.
4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal sector: no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and 3): no

Indonesia
1985 & 1995
1. Source
1.1 Source title: Official Estimates
1.2 Type of source: Official estimates
1.3 Periodicity: Irregular.
2. Reference period: All unpaid family workers, employees in agriculture, all own-account workers (unless professional, administrative or clerical workers) not assisted by other persons, and own-account workers assisted by family members or temporary workers in agriculture.
3. Definition: All unpaid family workers, employees in agriculture, all own-account workers (unless professional, administrative or clerical workers) not assisted by other persons, and own-account workers assisted by family members or temporary workers in agriculture.
4. Coverage
4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the household: yes
4.3 Persons covered
4.3.1 Age limits: Unpaid family workers, employees and own-account workers.
4.3.2 Status in employment: Unpaid family workers, employees and own-account workers.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal sector: no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and 3): no
1999
1. **Source**
1.1 Source title: National Labour Force Survey
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Annual.
2. **Reference period** The week prior to the interview.
3. **Definition**: All unpaid family workers, employees in agriculture, all own-account workers (unless professional, administrative or clerical workers) not assisted by other persons, and own-account workers assisted by family members or temporary workers in agriculture.

4. **Coverage**
4.1 Geographic Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage All
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity Manufacturing, trade, hotels & restaurants, services.
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the own-account workers: yes
4.3 **Persons covered**
4.3.1 Age limits: No age limit.
4.3.2 Status in employment Unpaid family workers, employees and own-account workers.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and no

Iran, Islamic Republic of
1996
1. **Source**
1.1 Source title: Statistical Survey of Households Engaged in Household Industry
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Monthly.
2. **Reference period**
3. **Definition**: Production of goods or services which is undertaken by one or more household members in their place of residence, without any commercial name-plate, for the purpose of generating income.

4. **Coverage**
4.1 Geographic Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage All
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity Manufacturing, trade, hotels & restaurants, services.
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the own-account workers: no
4.3 **Persons covered**
4.3.1 Age limits: 6 years and over.
4.3.2 Status in employment Unpaid family workers, employees and own-account workers.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and yes

Macau
1999
1. **Source**
1.1 Source title: Employment Survey
1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
1.3 Periodicity: Monthly.
2. **Reference period**
3. **Definition**: Own-account workers and unpaid family workers.
4. **Coverage**
4.1 Geographic Whole country.
4.2 Industry coverage All
4.2.1 Branches of economic activity Manufacturing, trade, hotels & restaurants, services.
4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the own-account workers: no
4.3 **Persons covered**
4.3.1 Age limits: No age limit.
4.3.2 Status in employment Own-account workers and unpaid family workers.
4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal no
4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and yes
Myanmar
1996
1. Source
   1.1 Source title: Survey on Establishments and Employment
   1.2 Type of source: Establishment sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity:
2. Reference period
3. Definition: Self-employment activities undertaken on own account and producing goods or services for sale.
4. Coverage
   4.1 Geographic: Urban
   4.2 Industry coverage
      4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Agriculture, mining, trade, hotels & restaurants excluded.
   4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
   4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the household: no
   4.3 Persons covered
      4.3.1 Age limits: 18 years and over.
      4.3.2 Status in employment: Employers and own-account workers.
      4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal sector: yes
      4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and 3):

Thailand
1991 to 1995
1. Source
   1.1 Source title: Household Manufacturing Industry Survey
   1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity:
2. Reference period: The 12 months prior to the interview.
3. Definition: Households engaged in manufacturing industries. The activities must be operated within the household premises and have less than 10 persons engaged, including non-members of the household working with or without pay.
4. Coverage
   4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
   4.2 Industry coverage
      4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: Manufacturing, excluding basic metal industry.
      4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: no
      4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the household: no
   4.3 Persons covered
      4.3.1 Age limits: No age limit.
      4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
      4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal sector: yes
      4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and 3):
Croatia
1997
1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Labour Force Survey
   1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity: One week.
2. **Reference period**
3. **Definition**: Employed persons who do not have to be registered, i.e. private farmers, own-account workers and the unpaid family workers employed by them.
4. **Coverage**
   4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
   4.2 Industry coverage
      4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
      4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
      4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the household: yes
   4.3 Persons covered
      4.3.1 Age limits: 15 years and over.
      4.3.2 Status in employment: Employers (private farmers), own-account workers and unpaid family workers.
      4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal sector: no
      4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and 3): yes

Poland
1995, 1998
1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Survey of Unregistered Employment
   1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity: Irregular.
2. **Reference period**
3. **Definition**: Self-employed persons engaged in activities which are not registered with tax authorities, and persons in paid-employment without labour contract and social insurance and not paying personal tax for the income received from the job.
4. **Coverage**
   4.1 Geographic: Whole country.
   4.2 Industry coverage
      4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
      4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
      4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the household: no
   4.3 Persons covered
      4.3.1 Age limits: 15 years and over.
      4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
      4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal sector: yes
      4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and 3): yes
Fiji
1989/90

1. **Source**
   1.1 Source title: Household Economic Activity Survey
   1.2 Type of source: Household sample survey
   1.3 Periodicity:

2. **Reference period**

3. **Definition:** Households producing goods and services at home for their own use or for sale. There could be employment of paid labour, casual or exchange labour from outside the household. Excluded are sugar cane farming, large scale (plantation type) copra and coconut farming, and non-agricultural economic activities if a licence to engage in them has been issued to the household.

4. **Coverage**
   4.1 Geographic: Central, Western, Eastern and Northern divisions.
   4.2 Industry coverage
      4.2.1 Branches of economic activity: All
      4.2.2 Inclusion of paid domestic employees employed by households: yes
      4.2.3 Inclusion of producers of goods exclusively for own final use by the yes
      4.3 Persons covered
         4.3.1 Age limits:
         4.3.2 Status in employment: All groups.
         4.3.3 Inclusion of persons with a secondary job/activity in the informal yes
         4.3.4 Inclusion of persons engaged in professional or technical activities (ISCO-88 Major Groups 2 and no
Resolution concerning statistics of employment in the informal sector, adopted by the  
15th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (January 1993)  
[extract]

Concept

5 (1) The informal sector may be broadly characterized as consisting of units engaged in the production of goods or services with the primary objective of generating employment and incomes to the persons concerned. These units typically operate at a low level of organization, with little or no division between labour and capital as factors of production and on a small scale. Labour relations - where they exist - are based mostly on casual employment, kinship or personal and social relations rather than contractual arrangements with formal guarantees.

(2) Production units of the informal sector have the characteristic features of household enterprises. The fixed and other assets used do not belong to the production units as such but to their owners. The units as such cannot engage in transactions or enter into contracts with other units, nor incur liabilities, on their own behalf. The owners have to raise the necessary finance at their own risk and are personally liable, without limit, for any debts or obligations incurred in the production process. Expenditure for production is often indistinguishable from household expenditure. Similarly, capital goods such as buildings or vehicles may be used indistinguishably for business and household purposes.

Operational definitions

Informal sector

6 (1) For statistical purposes, the informal sector is regarded as a group of production units which, according to the definitions and classifications provided in the United Nations System of National Accounts (Rev. 4), form part of the household sector as household enterprises or, equivalently, unincorporated enterprises owned by households as defined in paragraph 7.

(2) Within the household sector, the informal sector comprises (i) "informal own-account enterprises" as defined in paragraph 8; and (ii) the additional component consisting of "enterprises of informal employers" as defined in paragraph 9.

(3) The informal sector is defined irrespective of the kind of workplace where the productive activities are carried out, the extent of fixed capital assets used, the duration of the operation of the enterprise (perennial, seasonal or casual), and its operation as a main or secondary activity of the owner.

Household enterprises

7. According to the United Nations System of National Accounts (Rev. 4), household enterprises (or, equivalently, unincorporated enterprises owned by households) are distinguished from corporations and quasi-corporations on the basis of the legal organization of the units and the type of accounts kept for them. Household enterprises are units engaged in the production of goods or services which are not constituted as separate legal entities independently of the households or household members that own them, and for which no complete sets of accounts (including balance sheets of assets and liabilities) are available
which would permit a clear distinction of the production activities of the enterprises from the other activities of their owners and the identification of any flows of income and capital between the enterprises and the owners. Household enterprises include unincorporated enterprises owned and operated by individual household members or by two or more members of the same household as well as unincorporated partnerships formed by members of different households.

**Informal own-account enterprises**

8 (1) Informal own-account enterprises are household enterprises (in the sense of paragraph 7) owned and operated by own-account workers, either alone or in partnership with members of the same or other households, which may employ contributing family workers and employees on an occasional basis, but do not employ employees on a continuous basis and which have the characteristics described in subparagraphs 5 (1) and (2).

(2) For operational purposes, informal own-account enterprises may comprise, depending on national circumstances, either all own-account enterprises or only those which are not registered under specific forms of national legislation.

(3) Registration may refer to registration under factories or commercial acts, tax or social security laws, professional groups' regulatory acts, or similar acts, laws, or regulations established by national legislative bodies.

**Enterprises of informal employers**

9 (1) Enterprises of informal employers are household enterprises (in the sense of paragraph 7) owned and operated by employers, either alone or in partnership with members of the same or other households, which employ one or more employees on a continuous basis and which have the characteristics described in subparagraphs 5 (1) and (2).

(2) For operational purposes, enterprises of informal employers may be defined, depending on national circumstances, in terms of one or more of the following criteria:
   (i) size of the unit below a specified level of employment;
   (ii) non-registration of the enterprise or its employees.

(3) While the size criterion should preferably refer to the number of employees employed on a continuous basis, in practice, it may also be specified in terms of the total number of employees or the number of persons engaged during the reference period.

(4) The upper size limit in the definition of enterprises of informal employers may vary between countries and branches of economic activity. It may be determined on the basis of minimum size requirements as embodied in relevant national legislations, where they exist, or in terms of empirically determined norms. The choice of the upper size limit should take account of the coverage of statistical inquiries of larger units in the corresponding branches of economic activity, where they exist, in order to avoid an overlap.

(5) In the case of enterprises which carry out their activities in more than one establishment, the size criterion should, in principle, refer to each of the establishments separately rather than to the enterprise as a whole. Accordingly, an enterprise should be considered to satisfy the size criterion if none of its establishments exceeds the specified upper size limit.

(6) Registration of the enterprise may refer to registration under specific forms of national legislation as specified in subparagraph 8 (3). Employees may be considered registered if
they are employed on the basis of an employment or apprenticeship contract which commits the employer to pay relevant taxes and social security contributions on behalf of the employee or which makes the employment relationship subject to standard labour legislation.

10. For particular analytical purposes, more specific definitions of the informal sector may be developed at the national level by introducing further criteria on the basis of the data collected. Such definitions may vary according to the needs of different users of the statistics.

**Population employed in the informal sector**

11 (1) The population employed in the informal sector comprises all persons who, during a given reference period, were employed (in the sense of paragraph 9 of resolution I adopted by the Thirteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians) in at least one informal sector unit as defined in paragraphs 8 and 9, irrespective of their status in employment and whether it is their main or a secondary job.

**Treatment of particular cases**

14. Household enterprises, which are exclusively engaged in non-market production, i.e. the production of goods or services for own final consumption or own fixed capital formation as defined by the United Nations System of National Accounts (Rev. 4), should be excluded from the scope of the informal sector for the purpose of statistics of employment in the informal sector. Depending on national circumstances, an exception may be made in respect of households employing domestic workers as referred to in paragraph 19.

16. For practical reasons, the scope of the informal sector may be limited to household enterprises engaged in non-agricultural activities. With account being taken of paragraph 14, all non-agricultural activities should be included in the scope of the informal sector, irrespective of whether the household enterprises carry them out as main or secondary activities. In particular, the informal sector should include secondary non-agricultural activities of household enterprises in the agricultural sector if they fulfil the requirements of paragraphs 8 or 9.

17. Units engaged in professional or technical activities carried out by self-employed persons, such as doctors, lawyers, accountants, architects or engineers, should be included in the informal sector if they fulfil the requirements of paragraphs 8 or 9.

18 (1) Outworkers are persons who agree to work for a particular enterprise, or to supply a certain quantity of goods or services to a particular enterprise, by prior arrangement or contract with that enterprise, but whose place of work is not within any of the establishments which make up that enterprise.

(2) In order to facilitate data collection, all outworkers should be potentially included in the scope of informal sector surveys, irrespective of whether they constitute production units on their own (self-employed outworkers) or form part of the enterprise which employs them (employee outworkers). On the basis of the information collected, self-employed and employee outworkers should be distinguished from each other by using the criteria recommended in the United Nations System of National Accounts (Rev. 4). Outworkers should be included in the informal sector, or in the population employed in the informal sector, if the production units which they constitute as self-employed persons or for which they work as employees fulfil the requirements of paragraphs 8 or 9.
19. Domestic workers are persons exclusively engaged by households to render domestic services for payment in cash or in kind. Domestic workers should be included in or excluded from the informal sector depending upon national circumstances and the intended uses of the statistics. In either case, domestic workers should be identified as a separate sub-category in order to enhance international comparability of the statistics.
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