

Labour Statistics: a Century of Standard-Setting (ICLS) to produce data for the future

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▶ What is International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS)?

- ▶ Standard-setting body in labour statistics
- ▶ Hosted by the ILO since 1923
- ▶ This year marked 100 years of ICLS
- ▶ Around 450 participants
- ▶ 21st ICLS took place in Geneva from 11 to 20 October 2023
- ▶ More information: www.ilo.org/icls

▶ Types of international standards in labour statistics

- ▶ Labour statistics convention (160) & Recommendation (170)
 - Part of the international labour code, adopted by the ILC
- ▶ ICLS Resolutions
 - Cover conceptual frameworks, operational definitions and measurement methodologies
- ▶ ICLS Guidelines
 - Additional guidance on specific issues, or new topics
- ▶ Statistical classifications
 - International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO)
 - International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE)

Main topics for the 21st ICLS

- ▶ Revision of the standards for statistics on informality
- ▶ Digital platform work
- ▶ Earnings and employment-related income
- ▶ Cooperatives
- ▶ Social and solidarity economy
- ▶ Labour Market Information Systems
- ▶ International labour migration
- ▶ International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO)
- ▶ Work related violence and harassment
- ▶ Child labour
- ▶ Forced labour
- ▶ Unpaid care and domestic work

21st ICLS Resolution concerning statistics on the informal economy

- ▶ A more comprehensive statistical standard, aligned to the most recent statistical labour standards
 - ❑ Integrates the concept of work as defined by the 19th ICLS resolution in the framework of informal economy.
 - Recognizes that informality exists not only in relation to employment but also within forms of work other than employment
 - ❑ Integrates the 20th ICLS resolution concerning statistics of work relationships
 - Includes integrating ICSE-18 and dependent contractors that was introduced at the last ICLS
- ▶ Concepts of informal employment and informal sector
 - ❑ Builds on current definitions
 - ❑ but the definitions are proposed to be strengthened and improved based on country practices with stronger recommendations for operationalization
- ▶ An indicator framework
 - ❑ Gives countries better recommendation of the type of indicators to produce depending on policy objectives.
- ▶ Improved recommendations and tools for data collection forms an essential part to support the new resolution
 - ❑ Different projects are carried out with the intention to develop tools for countries to use

Side events at the 21st ICLS

- ▶ Celebrating 100 years of ICLS
- ▶ Challenges in communication of statistics based on new standards.
- ▶ Measuring informality from a gender perspective – overview of project to engender informality statistics
- ▶ Results of the pilot of the Decent Work Supply Chain Survey in Electronics
- ▶ Measuring own-use provision of services through labour force surveys – experiences and guidance
- ▶ Updating occupational classifications using machine learning
- ▶ South-south and triangular co-operation – experience of Lusophone countries in labour statistics

Special events at the 21st ICLS

- ▶ Panel discussion on digital platform employment
- ▶ Discussion panel on Reflecting on how to enhance the measurement of Social Justice in the world of work

▶ Measuring Social Justice



- ▶ Social justice is prominent in the ILO constitution and the 1944 ILO Declaration of Philadelphia.
- ▶ Report “**Advancing Social Justice**” was the first Report of the ILO Director-General to the International Labour Conference in 2023.
- ▶ About fairness, equality, voice; rule of law and access to justice; more cohesion and less poverty for inclusive growth.
- ▶ Four dimensions: a) Universal rights and capabilities; b) equal access to opportunities; c) fair distribution and d) just transitions (globalization, technology, demographics, environment transformation, crises). How they all affect the world of work.
- ▶ Calls to advance SJ actively implementing the decent work agenda.
- ▶ How to have benchmarks, monitor progress and support advancement on social justice? Metrics
- ▶ 18th ICLS discussed the Decent Work indicators Framework through a dedicated Working group.
- ▶ The 2030 Development Agenda has provided consensus around agreed Indicator Frameworks
- ▶ Need to coordinate and find a parsimonious set of indicators around the combination of the 4 dimensions with the four dimensions of decent work.
- ▶ Special Panel in the 21st ICLS discussing metrics

- ▶▶ Conclusions of expert panel:
 - ▶ Need for disaggregated data as a must to highlight inequalities in the world of work (spatial and thematic)
 - ▶ Use of existing international and national frameworks: SDG indicators, DWI Framework, Quality of Employment (UNECE), Social Cohesion (Statistics Canada), Well-being (OECD), Quality of life.
 - ▶ Filling gaps: unpaid work, informality, care work, impact of just transitions, poverty
 - ▶ Need for more qualitative data, and CGD
 - ▶ Not to use any composite index, but a parsimonious set of indicators
 - ▶ Relevant to measure progress within countries, not between-countries comparison
 - ▶ Links with Beyond GDP initiative

- ▶ 2009: ILO DG Juan Somavía participated in the launching of the Report by the Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress (Stiglitz, Sen, Fitoussi) conceived by France, along with OECD and IMF;
- ▶ Limitations of existing SNA and the GDP as the main Headline Indicator.
- ▶ Need to include unpaid work (particularly care work), inequalities (rights, income, gender, education and health). Need for SNA and labour statistics to converge actively adopting the concept of work in all its dimensions as defined by the 19th and 20th ICLS.
- ▶ Informal economy and the forthcoming SNA: major contributions to the SNA 2025.

▶ **Thank you for your attention**



More information- ILOSTAT