



Trial International Classification of Activities for Time Use Statistics (ICATUS)

United Nations Statistics Division

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**Expert Group Meeting on International Economic and Social Classifications
New York, 1 - 4 September 2009**



Background

- 1995, UN Statistical Commission, New York – requested UNSD to prepare the draft classification
- 1997, EGM in New York - First elaboration and detailed discussion
- EGM 2000, New York – Further refining and comments
- 2004, New York – Presented in the *Guide to Producing Statistics on Time Use: Measuring Paid and Unpaid Work, United Nations*

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Purpose

- ❑ Provide a set of activity categories for producing statistics on time use
- ❑ Suitable at national level, provides comparability at regional and international levels
- ❑ Serve as standard activity classification consistent with existing standard classifications in labor and economic statistics



Design principles

- ❑ Flexible – meeting different needs of users of time use statistics
- ❑ Balanced and comprehensive coverage of activities (productive <-> personal, formal <-> informal ...)
- ❑ Detailed enough do distinguish activities of particular sub-populations (young, elderly, women ...)
- ❑ Harmonized with previous and existing statistical classifications at national and international level



Concept

- ICATUS - designed to distinguish productive and non-productive activities on the basis of general production boundary:
 - A productive activity is the one that can be delegated to another person and yield the same result

- General production boundary - broader than the SNA production boundary – includes non-SNA production

- Non-productive (personal) activities – cannot be delegated



Main categories

- Activities within the SNA production boundary – “SNA work” activities (five major divisions)

- Activities outside the SNA production boundary but within the general production boundary – “non-SNA work” activities (three major divisions)

- Activities that are non productive – personal activities (seven major divisions)



Five “SNA work activities” major divisions

- ❑ Work for corporations/quasi corporations, non-profit institutions and government (formal sector)
- ❑ Work for household in primary production activities
- ❑ Work for household in non-primary production activities
- ❑ Work for household in construction activities
- ❑ Work for household providing services for income



Three “Non SNA work activities” major divisions

- Providing unpaid domestic services for own final use within household

- Providing unpaid care giving services to household members

- Providing community services and help to other households



Seven “Personal activities” major divisions

- ❑ Learning
- ❑ Socializing and community participation
- ❑ Attending/visiting cultural, entertainment and sports events/venues
- ❑ Hobbies, games and other pastime activities
- ❑ Indoor and outdoor sports participation and related activities
- ❑ Mass media
- ❑ Personal care and maintenance



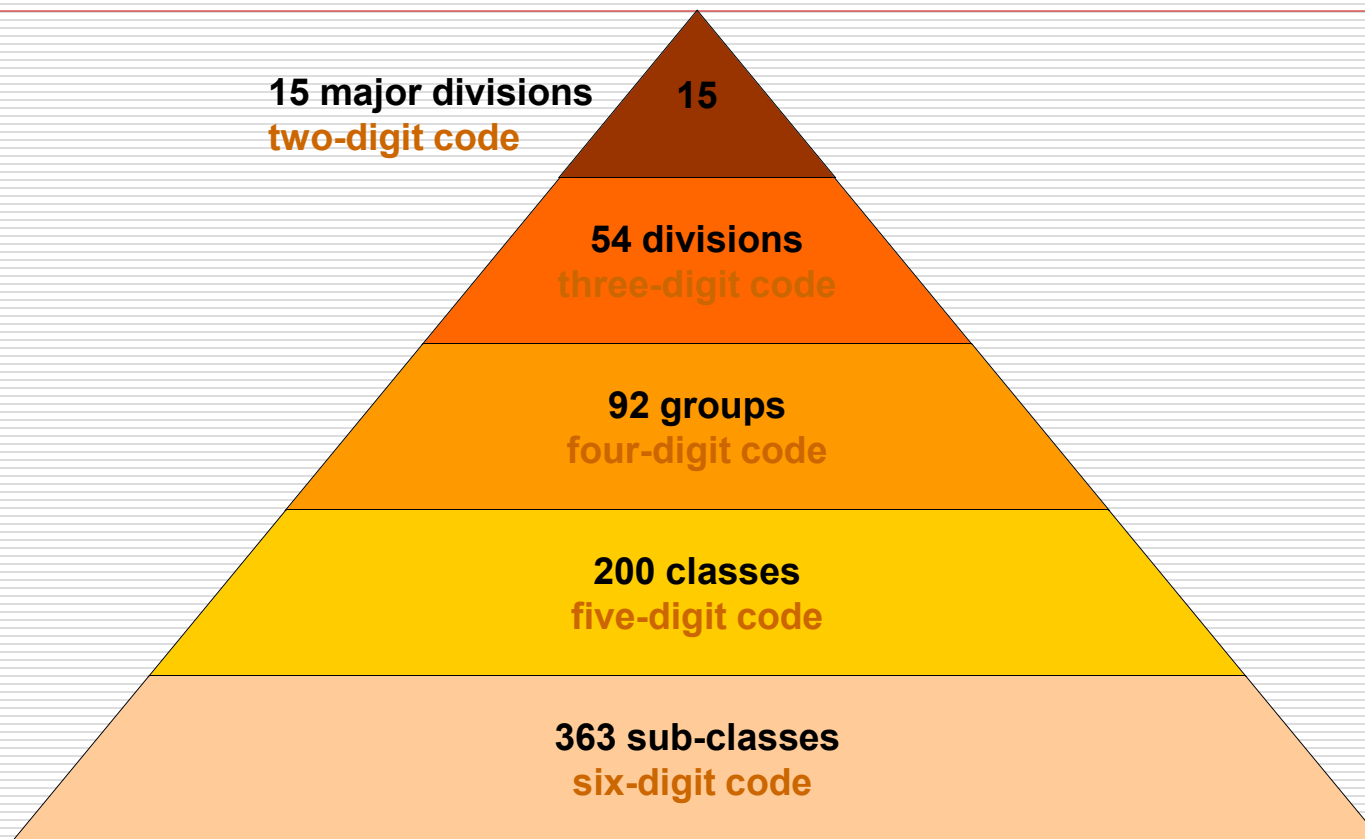
Quick summary

Productive activities		Non-productive (personal)
Within SNA productive boundary	Outside SNA productive boundary	
01 Formal employment	06 Household – services for own use	09 Learning
02 Household – primary production of goods	07 Household – unpaid care	10 Socializing
03 Household – non-primary production of goods	08 Household – volunteer work	11 Cultural, entertainment
04 Household – Construction		12 Hobbies, games
05 Household – services for income		13 Sports
		14 Mass media
		15 Personal care

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Hierarchical structure



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Fitting in a different framework

- ❑ Developed by Dagfinn Ås (1978) based on ideas of V.D. Patruchev – all activities are either:

- ❑ Necessary time – basic psychological needs
- ❑ Explicitly contracted time – gainful employment and school attendance
- ❑ Committed time – obligated, but a substituted service can be purchased
- ❑ Free time – remaining time after the first three are accounted for



Fitting in a different framework

Necessary time	Contracted time	Committed time	Free time
15 Personal care	01 Formal employment	06 Household – services for own use	10 Socializing
	02 Household – primary production of goods	07 Household – unpaid care	11 Cultural, entertainment
	03 Household – non-primary production of goods	08 Household – volunteer work	12 Hobbies, games
	04 Household – Construction		13 Sports
	05 Household – services for income		14 Mass media
	09 Learning		

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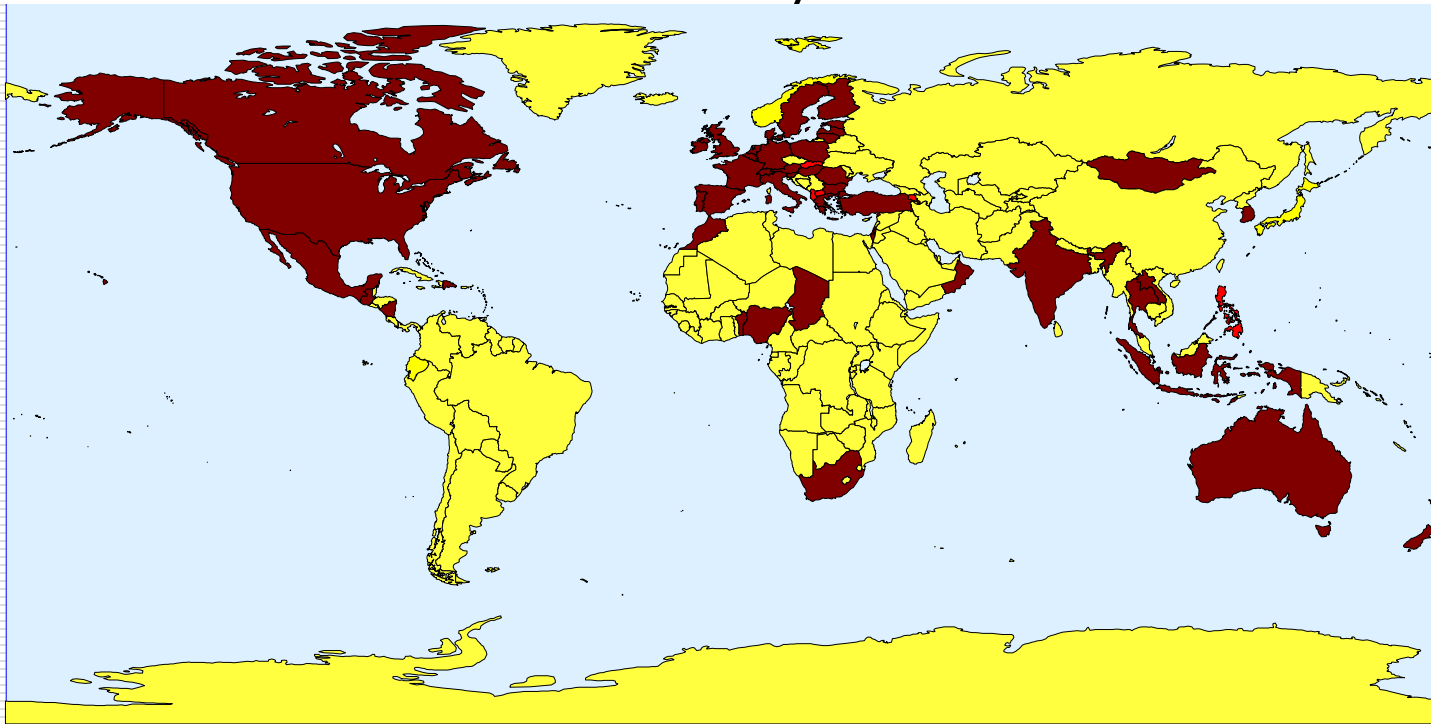
ICATUS and HETUS

- HETUS – Harmonized European Time Use Surveys – launched in 2000
 - Six basic groups of activities
 - Gainful work, study
 - Domestic work
 - Travel
 - Sleep
 - Meals, personal care
 - Free time
- ICATUS major divisions correspond to one-digit HETUS
- There are differences – please refer to pages 199 and 366, respectively, of the English version of the *Guide*



Current developments

- In the period 1990-2008 sixty-two countries conducted at least one Time Use Survey



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Current developments

- Most of the developing countries used ICATUS
 - Directly (for example, Occupied Palestinian Territory)
 - Adapted (for example, Mongolia, South Africa)
 - As guidance (for example India, Mexico)

- Significant ICATUS implementation experiences at national levels

- UNSD - compiling these methodological experiences

- UNSD – soliciting additional input



The EGM on Classifications may wish to recommend:

- ❑ UNSD should proceed with compilation of national experiences in implementing ICATUS with all the relevant documentation and findings
- ❑ In 2010 UNSD should consider convoking an Expert Group Meeting that will review national experiences in implementing ICATUS, point to the necessary adjustments and additions and provide guidance in preparing the final version of this classification
- ❑ Based on the conclusions of the EGM, UNSD should finalize ICATUS for submission to the Statistical Commission for adoption as an international standard in 2012