



International Telecommunication Union

National Bureau of Statistics
Chinese delegation
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ITU's work on ICT measurement: Data Collection and Dissemination

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The ITU - Helping the world to communicate

- o The UN-specialized agency for telecommunications: where governments and the private sector coordinate global telecom networks and services
- o Founded in 1865
- o 189 Member States and over 700 private sector members



ITU Statistical Obligation: Why?

- As a United Nations agency, the ITU has an obligation to produce statistics covering its sector. This is in line with other specialized agencies that publish statistics covering their respective field of operations. This forms part of the global statistical system of the UN.
- Inside ITU, Resolution No. 8 (Istanbul, 2002) calls on the Director of the BDT *"...to survey countries and produce world and regional reports, in particular on...world telecommunication development."*



Market Economics and Finance Unit (MEF)

- Information sharing: tracking the global diffusion of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)
 - Telecom/ICT Data collection and dissemination
 - Analysis
 - International cooperation
- The ITU, through its **Indicators**, is the main source of internationally comparable data on ICT/telecommunications



Data collection

HOW?

- Two Telecommunication Indicator Questionnaires per year addressed to government agencies responsible from ICT/telecom *or* operators
- Online research
- Annual reports

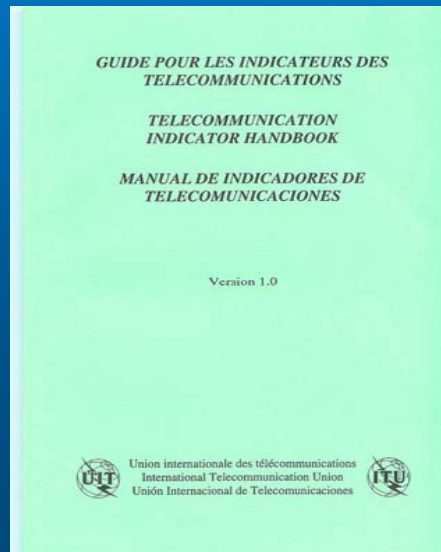
WHAT?

- Telephone network
- Mobile services
- Traffic
- Staff
- Quality of Service
- Tariffs
- Revenues & Investment
- Broadcasting
- Information Technology



Indicators - definition

- World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Meeting (WTIM)
 - Attended by more than 150 participants (ministries, regulators, operators, NSOs)
 - Fifth meeting - October 2006 (tentative)
- World Telecommunication Indicators Handbook, V.3



- Updated in 2004 (WTIM) in light of latest developments
- Available online



Storage - ITU data

Data are entered into the
World Telecommunication Indicators Database



- Data stored include:
 - annual numerical data (indicators)
 - industry/country operators' information (contact details, operators functions, short description, etc.)
- Updated regularly to cope with the fast changing telecom/ICT environment
 - New indicators added
 - "Old" indicators kept in the database for future use



Data Collection - Challenges

1. Low response rates to questionnaire
2. Incomplete data: Not all questions get answered
3. More work to aggregate operators' data since the fall of monopoly
4. Operators data or annual reports sometimes not available
5. Newer telecom/ICT data hard to obtain from developing countries
6. Some information collected doesn't meet the ITU definition



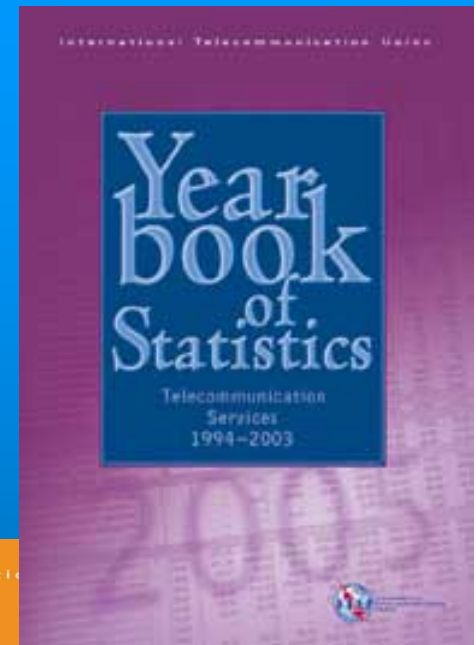
Data dissemination

1. Yearbook of Statistics

- Published annually for almost 3 decades
- Covers 80 ICT/telecom indicators for almost 200 economies

2. World Telecommunication Indicators Database

- Time series data for the years 1960, 1965, 1970 and annually from 1975-2003
- Covers 80 ICT/telecom indicators for almost 200 economies





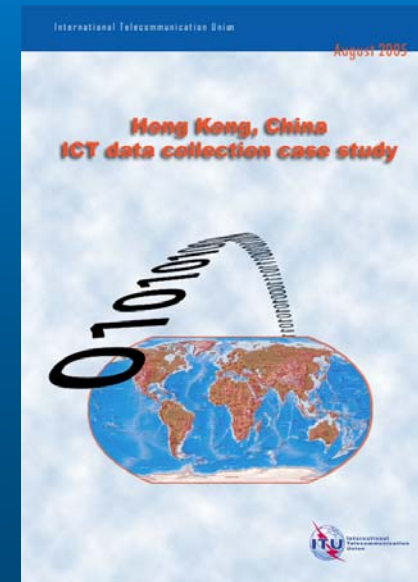
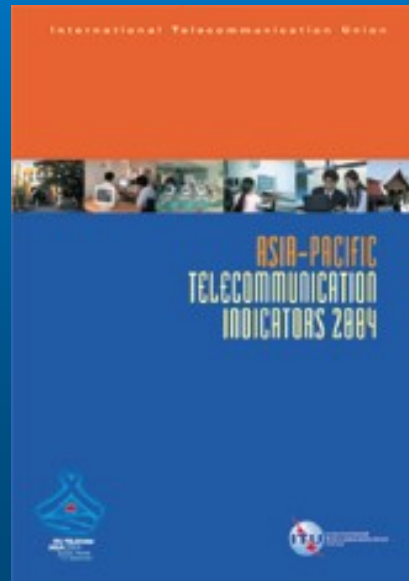
Other forms of dissemination

- Free statistics published in our ICT website for basic indicators, cellular subscribers, information technology and data for top operators
[\(http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/statistics/\)](http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/statistics/)
- Requests made by users either by phone, fax or email



Analysis

- World Telecommunication Development Report
- Regional Reports on ICT/telecom developments
- Case Studies (www.itu.int/ict/cs)





Other activities: International cooperation & coordination

1. The Millennium Development Goals: ITU tracks target 18 of the MDGs
2. UN Statistical Commission
3. UN Committee on the Coordination of Statistical Activities (CCSA)
4. UN Expert group on indicators of sustainable development
5. Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development (ITU, UNCTAD, UIS, OECD, World Bank, UN ICT Task Force, EUROSTAT, UN Regional Commissions, NSOs)



ITU's Role in the Partnership

- Collecting core set of indicators - infrastructure and access indicators (A1-A12)
- Collecting the core indicators on access and use of ICTs by households and individuals (HH1-HH13), for developing countries
- Finally, ITU will contribute to the achievement of the Partnership's other main objectives:
 - to enhance the capacity of national statistical offices
 - to set up a global database on ICT statistics



Thank you for your attention!

<http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/>