The UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) 
Communication Statistics Programme

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ITU Global Indicators Workshop on Community Access to ICTs
Mexico City
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UNESCO Institute for Statistics
Who are we?

- Semi-autonomous body whose mandate is to support statistical activities of UNESCO in areas of education, Science & Technology, Culture & Communications
- Formally established in November 1999 with new director: Denise Lievesley
- Statutes and financial arrangements agreed by UNESCO General Conference
- Have our own governing board but receive a regular budget from UNESCO in a special account
- Relocated in Montreal in September 2001 with mostly new staff
Functions of UIS

- Collection and dissemination of cross-nationally comparable data on education, science & technology, culture & communications
- Methodological, technical and conceptual statistical development; establishment and maintenance of international classifications
- Analysis and interpretation of international data (often in partnership with others)
- Statistical capacity building within countries for users and producers of data
Formerly ran battery of six international surveys sent annually or biennially to 189 Member States;

CULTURE: museums, libraries, films and cinemas, book production;

COMMUNICATION/CULTURE: printed press, broadcasting (radio/ TV).

Mainly limited to infrastructure aspects from administrative sources; nothing on access, usage, impact.

Collected from national statistical offices as secondary data: plagued with data quality problems!

Decided to suspend the collections (temporarily?) to take a fresh look with a view towards renewal.
Two main reasons:

A) Problems with past data: data quality issues (data discrepancies, timeliness and issues of missing data) and UIS instruments/questionnaires out-of-date and not user-friendly.

B) Data collections limited to answering questions on institutional and infrastructure aspects; what about access, usage and impact?

- Need to consider broader spectrum of issues!
- Building new Communication statistics programme to promote evidence-based national policies!
- Extensive consultation + long-term strategy paper being drafted + new programme to be launched in 2005
- Meanwhile a little about current UIS initiatives…
Two-day WSIS side event jointly organized with UIS, UNECE, UNCTAD, ITU, OECD, Eurostat

UIS sponsored session with a dual focus of “ICT & Education” and “ICT & Gender”
150 participants across 60 countries and 5 continents

Papers available in six languages at:

Chief outcome: agreement to launch “Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development” (UIS, UNCTAD, ITU, OECD, UN Regional Commissions + COUNTRIES)

Expected Output: a) agreement on core set of ICT indicators to be collected at national levels; b) building of international ICT database; c) related statistical capacity building activities

Results to be fed back to WSIS 2005 (phase II)
RECENT UIS DEVELOPMENT WORK

RETOOLING UIS SURVEYS ON BROADCASTING AND PRESS

- UIS retooling two old surveys: press & broadcasting (radio and television)
- Recent calls from countries for data on broadcasting on “neglected technology” of radio and television
- WSIS Plan of Action Indicative Goal # B.6.h calls for monitoring of trends
- UIS deconstructing old questionnaire, developing more user-friendly formats + more up-to-date content.
- ITU collects data on radio & television households as well as cable television & home satellite subscribers; UIS intends to focus on complementary areas of content, personnel, language
- Meta-data/contact questionnaire launched in Nov/04; main questionnaire to be launched in spring 2005
Radio and Television Receivers for a Selection of Countries

Source: UIS 1997

Radio Receivers per 1,000 inhabitants

Television Receivers per 1,000 inhabitant
UNESCO/UIS lead UN agency for communication; ITU for telecom - important to complement, not duplicate

ITU, UNCTAD, OECD have own niches for ICT data collection

UIS niche: ICTs AND EDUCATION! Reasons?

i) WSIS POA Indicative Goals #B.6.b and #B.6.g call for monitoring!

ii) Education & Communication cross-cutting for UNESCO/ UIS

iii) Unique niche for UIS relative to other international agencies
ICT & EDUCATION: META-ANALYSIS OF EXISTING SCHOOL SURVEY DATA

- Internationally-sponsored school surveys with ICT data collected relating to infrastructure, usage and impact.
- Sources of School Survey Data: PISA 2002 (OECD), TIMSS 1999 (IEA), PIRLS 2001 (IEA), SITES 1999 (IEA), SACMEQ, MLA, LLECE (Laboratorio); surveys cover most countries of world.
- Main focus education, but ICT components have not been analyzed across instruments.
- UIS making cross-national analytical comparison across surveys constrained by similarity of content and coverage; work to be completed in 2005.
Computer Usage of Grade 4 Students

Source: PIRLS 2001

% of students that use computers at HOME
every day or almost every day

% of students that use computers at SCHOOL
every day or almost every day

Slovakia  Hungary  Lithuania  Germany  Italy  Latvia  Norway  Greece  Slovenia  Belgium  Bulgaria  Singapore  Republic of Singapore  Czech Republic  Saudi Arabia  Czech Republic  Turkey  Cyprus  Romania  Republic of Macedonia  United Kingdom  Germany  Iran (Islamic Republic of)  Sweden  Iceland  Singapore  Hong Kong, SAR  Bulgaria  Argentina  Christian Democratic Republic  Cyprus  Romania  Republic of Macedonia  England  France  Republic of Moldova  Brazil  Canada  Norway  Slovakia  Bulgaria  Denmark  Cyprus  Argentina  New Zealand  United States of America  Colombia
Internet Access of Grade 8 Students at School and Home
Source: TIMSS-R 1999

% of students with Internet access

INTERNET ACCESS AT HOME
INTERNET ACCESS AT SCHOOL
RECENT UIS DEVELOPMENT WORK

ICT COMPONENT ADDED TO
UIS EDUCATION SURVEY &
UIS LITERACY (LAMP) HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

- Current UIS annual education survey relating to enrolment, teachers and finance; nothing on ICTs
- 2005 round will see re-engineering and content update; opportune time to add ICTs
- Collecting from MOE within countries, therefore limited to information on ICT infrastructure
- But also embedding questions on ICT literacy & usage in UIS-sponsored Literacy (LAMP) Household Surveys

- Content: stocktaking of global ICT indicators, discussion on data quality issues, suggestions of data to collect in the future

2) Report on Multilingualism on the Internet commissioned to Indiana University to be completed for WSIS 2005

3) Second report on Multilingualism commissioned to FUNREDES with Latin American perspective to be completed for WSIS 2005
- Motivation: WSIS Plan of Action Indicative Goal # B.6.i