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Working Group on Measuring E-Commerce and the Digital Economy

Chair's summary of the second meeting of the Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy

Summary

In this document, prepared by the Chair of the Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy, a summarized account is given of discussions held during the second meeting of the Working Group, held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva from 3 to 4 May 2021, in a mixed in-person and virtual format. The Chair and Secretariat were present in the meeting room, while all other attendees used remote participation. The Working Group discussed progress in e-commerce and digital economy measurement by international organizations, capacity building based on the new UNCTAD *Manual for the Production of Statistics on the Digital Economy*, non-survey based data sources on e-commerce and the digital economy. Based on the discussions, the present Chair's summary proposes possible topics for future meetings of the Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy, for the consideration of and decision by the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy at its fifth session, the dates for which are still to be determined.

Opening plenary

1. The second meeting of the Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy was held virtually from 3 to 4 May 2021.

2. At the opening plenary meeting, the Working Group elected the Vice-Director and head of the Economy Division of the Federal Office of Statistics of Switzerland as its Chair.[1] The Director of the National Office of Statistics of the Dominican Republic was elected Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur.[2]

3. After the election of officers, the Chair informed the Working Group that the results of the meeting would be reported to the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy, in the form of a Chair's summary to be finalized after the Working Group's second meeting.

4. The Chair also noted that the Working Group agenda was pertinent to the upcoming United Nations World Data Forum, hosted by Switzerland from 3 to 6 October 2021. The Working Group adopted an agenda, as follows:

    1. Election of officers
    2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
    3. Progress in measuring e-commerce and digital economy work by relevant international organizations
    4. Next steps in the implementation of the revised UNCTAD *Manual for the Production of Statistics on the Digital Economy*[3]
    5. The use of non-survey sources of data to supplement the traditional measurement of e-commerce and the digital economy
    6. Topics for future consideration by the Working Group
    7. Adoption of the Chair's summary

5. The opening remarks of the UNCTAD Secretariat by the Director of the Division on Technology and Logistics[4] underlined that the COVID-19 pandemic had shown the importance of digital solutions for maintaining economic and social activities, but also underscored the divides in digital readiness. To bridge the divides, countries needed improved statistics on the digital economy for evidence-based policies that can reap the development gains from digital transformation.

[1] Mr. Livio Lugano
[2] Ms. Miosotis Rivas Peña
[3] UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2021/2
[4] Ms. Shamika Sirimanne

Item 3
Progress in measuring e-commerce and the digital economy by relevant international organizations

6. The Working Group reviewed the latest progress in the work of international organizations to measure e-commerce and the digital economy. Firstly, the UNCTAD secretariat presented new data on international trade from the ICT sector and digitally deliverable services, its recent analysis of COVID-19 impact on e-commerce, and the UNCTAD B2C index 2020. The latest growth of e-commerce belied the large remaining disparities between countries, regions and companies in the digital economy with high income countries dominating in e-commerce.

7. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) presented the updated Going Digital Toolkit, highlighting the indicators on e-commerce, digital trade and the digital economy and advances in country coverage. The presentation emphasized the recent addition of mapping digital economy indicators to the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

8. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) updated the Group on the 2020 revisions to its *Manual on Measuring ICT Access and Use by Households and Individuals* and the recently added e-commerce indicators contained therein. Countries were encouraged to use the ITU manual as reference material in the process of preparing, designing and implementing ICT household surveys.

9. The World Trade Organization (WTO) presented the OECD-WTO-IMF *Handbook on Measuring Digital Trade* which had been released in 2020. The Handbook had been elaborated by an Expert Group consisting of members from international organizations, national statistical agencies and central banks. It contains a conceptual framework to define digital trade and a mechanism to share existing efforts on measuring digital trade, including a reporting template that maps various data sources. The Handbook provides examples on how to measure transactions from digital intermediation platforms using big data and surveys. Finally, the Working Group heard about the WTO's technical assistance on measuring digital trade, which generated much interest among participants.

10. The statistical office of the European Union, Eurostat, presented recent developments in its enterprise survey on ICT usage and e-commerce. The ongoing 2021 survey asks about the use of artificial intelligence, Internet of things, and cloud computing, as well as the impact of COVID-19. Future surveys plan to extend the coverage of ICT security, robotics, ICT and the environment, and big data. The Eurostat model questionnaire is featured in the new UNCTAD *Manual*.

11. The Universal Postal Union (UPU) highlighted its use of postal trade data to measure e-commerce of physically delivered goods. UPU uses postal statistics collected annually from more than 200 countries, as well as high-frequency data from electronic information exchanges about mail items between postal operators. There were still challenges in harmonizing data and extending coverage.

12. The ensuing discussion emphasized the benefits that improved measurement of the digital economy would bring for reaching policy goals. For example, Indonesia indicated that it, during its 2022 tenure of the G20 presidency, would want to measure digital skills and literacy to determine strategies on how to maximize their potential for countries. One speaker highlighted the limited country coverage of many digital economy statistics and emphasized that LDCs are challenged by the lack of skills, capacity and measurement infrastructure.

Item 4
Next steps in the implementation of the revised UNCTAD Manual for the Production of Statistics on the Digital Economy

13. The Secretariat presented the Working Group with the UNCTAD *Manual for the Production of Statistics on the Digital Economy* that was revised in 2020, and with its plans to use it for capacity building of entities charged with producing official statistics on e-commerce and the digital economy. E-commerce, trade in digitally delivered services, and the use of innovative data sources such as transactional data and experimental data, were some of the new topics included in the *Manual*. There are more developing country examples than in the last edition, attesting to the success of the previous Manual and related training.[5]

14. UNCTAD was already developing the training courses based on the *Manual* with the TrainForTrade programme, namely a version for face-to-face delivery and a version for distance learning. While the *Manual* and training material were developed originally in English, the aim is to translate them into at least French and Spanish soon. The *Manual* will not only be used in training courses, but also as methodological reference for UNCTAD advisory services and for stakeholders in digital economy statistics. For example, it may support coordination in the national statistical system, be used as a self-assessment tool for data completeness and accuracy, or as a checklist for managing statistical processes. The *Manual* complements other guideline and framework documents from the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development.

[5] The target audience for the *Manual* are officers from national statistical offices in charge of producing ICT statistics, producers of business statistics, trade statistics, industrial statistics, services statistics, as well as data producers from other agencies in the national statistical system and users of the data.

15. UNCTAD intends to leverage partnerships as much as possible to disseminate and translate the *Manual,* and to implement the related capacity building. The Secretariat informed the Working Group in 2021 that it was launching the Pacific Digital Economy Programme (PDEP) in collaboration with UNCDF and UNDP, which will be one of the first instances of using the *Manual* for training activities. The objective of the PDEP is to support the development of inclusive digital economies in the Pacific. In this context, UNCTAD invited the delegates of the Working Group to express their interest in receiving technical assistance to build capacity in e-commerce and digital economy statistics.

16. UNCTAD's Train for Trade Programme also informed the Working Group about the methodology used for developing online training material. Some of the main benefits of their methodology include an open-source content management system that minimizes costs, a long-term experience in blended learning solutions in several languages, and the building of networks and communities of practice, notably thanks to training of trainers. The training course on measuring e-commerce and the digital economy training would add to the offering of e-commerce and statistics related courses (best practices of e-commerce, legal aspects of e-commerce, digital identity for trade and development, trade in services).

17. The Working Group heard from Kenya's National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and from Costa Rica's Central Bank (CBCR) about their experience with UNCTAD capacity building. UNCTAD had helped the KNBS, in collaboration with the Kenya Communications Authority, to implement its first ICT enterprise and public sector surveys in 2016. This involved training of national data producers on questionnaire design, sampling, data analysis and report writing, which helped build a sound methodological foundation for the production of ICT statistics in Kenya. Other positive outcomes of the exercise included the international recognition of the validity and comparability of the produced data, the ability to build further work more easily on the solid foundation that had been laid, while maintaining the flexibility of being able to add national indicators. Areas where further technical support is still needed are measurement of e-readiness, of e-commerce, both overall and cross-border, of the business side of e-commerce, as well as training on how to best incorporate non-survey data sources.

18. Costa Rica had received technical assistance from UNCTAD on measuring trade in digitally delivered services in 2017. The Central Bank was able to take the project forward and integrate the data collection into its annual statistical offering, thus being one of the countries with the most advanced data collection for this sector, covering 2017-2020. For example, Costa Rica can now determine the share of services delivered digitally across borders by experts travelling abroad. The country can also track the rising share of digitally delivered services in the national economy, to identify in greater detail the services involved, as well as the type of enterprises, the number of jobs generated, and the contribution of enterprises located in free zones. The data feed into the national policy making process, helping to assess the return on investment and the impact of policies aimed

at fostering e-trade development and creating zones with a special economic regime. In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the digitally delivered services conferred much-needed resilience to the national economy, at a time when revenues from tourism were severely affected. An important lesson from the Costa Rican perspective was the need to establish a national strategic alliance, including economic and technology policy makers, to be able to take advantage of the newly generated data. Benefits were further derived from disseminating widely the data to the business sector and to the public.

19. The ensuing discussion focused on the needs and demands for capacity building on measuring the digital economy, with specific interventions as follows:

    a. The Palestinian national statistical office thanked UNCTAD and UN-ESCWA for already having been able to benefit from the methodology and guidance of the revised *Manual*, as well as for providing advice on its ICT business survey. The delegate indicated that further support would be needed during the implementation of the survey and for data production.
    b. The Dominican Republic expressed an interest in measuring e-commerce and e-services and requested UNCTAD's support taking forward national efforts. The delegation also welcomed the possibility of participating in training of trainer initiatives, as well as the sharing of experiences with other countries such as in regional workshops.
    c. The Gulf Cooperation Council expressed their thanks for the revised manual and methodological guidelines and highlighted the need for further training given the growing importance of the digital economy in national strategies.
    d. The Russian Federation highlighted that it had previously benefitted from UNCTAD technical assistance in preparing their ICT business survey and that it was able to compile and publish data on the impact of digitalization on GDP. Russian data were available free of charge on the website of the national statistical office. A translation into Russian of the revised manual was highlighted as particularly desirable.
    e. Burundi emphasized the need to improve digital trade data in all least developed countries (LDCs), where capacity is particularly constrained and budgetary resources limited. Even countries with low digital readiness need baseline data for crafting policies that will boost e-commerce and the ICT sector, as well as to monitor progress in reducing digital divides. Burundi requested technical assistance in implementing the *Manual*, including by establishing a national coordination mechanism to ensure that the benefits of training are maintained and built upon sustainably. Online training offerings, it was highlighted, should consider the connectivity limitations of LDCs.
    f. The Secretariat encouraged delegations to take advantage of the capacity building opportunities offered by UNCTAD and invited those interested to submit written requests to the Secretariat, highlighting in as much detail as possible priorities and specific needs.

Item 5
The use of non-survey sources of data to supplement the traditional measurement of e-commerce and the digital economy

20. The Working Group discussed non-survey sources of data to measure e-commerce and the digital economy and to supplement traditional data sources, highlighting advantages and challenges. The Secretariat opened the session by noting that despite the colossal amounts of data being generated automatically worldwide by electronic transactions, intermediation and media platforms or search engines, much of it is duplicated and difficult to exploit for statistical purposes. Data also transcend borders, and dominant digital platforms mainly in the United States are harnessing data from users in developing countries. We are just beginning to explore ways to disentangle the data flows and try to mine them for meaningful statistics.

21. The Secretariat noted that isolated data are of limited use, so national statisticians and international organizations must find smart ways to compile data in a coordinated fashion, especially data related to international trade that crosses borders. The digital economy is prompting the statistical and policy communities to consider new governance models for data, especially for discrete sets of data that have been agreed to be useful to all, for example to help monitor progress towards the sustainable development goals. Data governance should distinguish between data as a commodity and data as a public good, ensure the quality, relevance, and robustness of such data, as well as preserve the trust between data providers, producers and users.

22. Traditional statistical production (fed by survey-based data, and to a certain extent administrative data) must be expanded to include these new data sources and data compilation techniques. The Working Group heard of projects underway in the UN Statistical Division, the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and Brazil, that leverage mobile phone data, web scraping, and linking of databases.

23. In this context, the UN Statistical Division presented the work of the UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics (UN-CEBD), which had established a Global Platform for international collaboration in the development of official statistics using new data sources and innovative methods, including in the context of the SDG monitoring framework. The UN-CEBD has set up task teams on specific issues and is developing training, as well as establishing physical regional hubs. The task teams of the UN-CEBD are open to the broader statistical community and the UN Statistical Division welcomes interest from developing countries in particular. The areas covered by the Task Teams include: mobile phone data, scanner data and web-scraping for price statistics, access to global private sector data, privacy preserving techniques, and training and skills.

24. The UN-CEBD task team on mobile phone data, for example had produced a handbook on how to use such data for official statistics and a wiki. The work aimed to measure progress towards SDGs 9 and 17. Eventually, the UN-CEBD could expand the scope of the exercise to the acquisition of data from other economic sectors at the global level and deepen the granularity of the data compiled.

25. The UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-ECLAC) presented its big data project to measure the digital economy, which had used data from the largest online marketplace in the region. UN-ECLAC noted that the digital economy in particular needs innovative measurement, beyond connectivity indicators, so we can have meaningful information on online activities, enterprise digitalization, fintech, and other issues. The COVID-19 pandemic had made the need for this information more pressing, including as a measure of economic resilience and recovery.

26. The UN-ECLAC big data project aimed to build the capacity of NSOs through pilot web-scraping exercises. Despite the complexity of its implementation, this technique has significant potential to yield timely and detailed information. The project had yielded valuable insights in terms of the growth of e-commerce due to the pandemic's impact that would have been unachievable otherwise. As more data become available for analysis, it may be possible to measure digital freelancer activity, disaggregated by gender, or link web data with existing business registers. The Latin American big data project showed that the unprecedented diversity of data that is increasingly available can be useful to understand new economic paradigms. Big data and traditional statistics have different purposes and are complementary. To tackle data innovation, statistical systems and institutions will need to adjust and acquire new capabilities.

27. Brazil, which had been involved in the UN-ECLAC big data project, shared an experiment to measure e-commerce through analysis of domain name data, which required the cooperation of the national domain name organization and surveyed whether companies with a website engaged in e-commerce. The country conveyed the methodological difficulties of engaging with new sources of data. The complexity of disentangling big data for statistical purposes is not impossible to tackle, but it is nonetheless a challenge. Brazil was taking small but concrete steps to improve each statistical exercise by, for example, reducing respondent burden, linking databases and traditional surveys, and integrating social media e-commerce.

28. During the ensuing discussion, the Working Group concluded that traditional statistical production needs to be rethought so it may be expanded by new data sources. In some cases, it might entail structural reform of national statistical systems. The challenges for developing countries may include cost (of access to data and physical infrastructure such as servers), data sovereignty and privacy issues, and the availability of skills. In addition, the use of big data must not ignore the fundamental pillars of a sound statistical system.

29. A good example of how to access privately held data was offered by Eurostat, which reached a bilateral agreement on the exchange of data with four large international companies in the tourism sector, regarding data from online platforms on short-term accommodation. Since these companies operate worldwide, it was more effective for the European statistical office to take the lead rather than for national statistical offices to approach the platforms individually.

30. Continuous professional capacity building will be essential so that national statisticians are able to leverage new data sources. Developing countries may need to receive more support from international organizations and other colleagues in the broader statistical community. Institutional cooperation and partnerships are very important at the national, regional, and international levels, as evidenced by the big data projects presented to the Working Group.

31. The COVID-19 crisis had put pressure on NSOs to produce more high-quality, timely, reliable, and disaggregated data on e-commerce and the digital economy. Data innovation not only provides new insights that may have been overlooked by traditional approaches, but it also appears inevitable. Big data will play a central role in transforming statistics production by offering relevant input and by requiring that we rethink data governance. Developing countries will need support in building the capacity of their national statistical systems to exploit alternative data sources (through methodology or software), establish trust between data providers and producers, as well as to translate data into robust indicators that are of public value.

Item 6
Topics for future consideration by the Working Group

32. As per its terms of reference, the Working Group discussed possible topics that could be examined in future meetings and that will be proposed to the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts (IGE) on E-Commerce and the Digital Economy. The IGE will decide on the provisional agenda items to be discussed at the third meeting of the Working Group. The dates for the next IGE session and Working Group meeting are still to be determined but will likely be in 2022.

33. Participants underlined the importance of more experience and information sharing on the measurement of e-commerce and digital economy in future Working Group meetings. It was suggested that the Agenda Item 3 on “Progress in measuring e-commerce and the digital economy by relevant international organizations” become a standing agenda item of the Working Group.

34. Future meetings should also maintain the practice of sharing country experiences in using novel techniques to measure the digital economy, as well as in adopting protocols for data

compilation, processing, and dissemination. For example, the Dominican Republic offered to share its experience in measuring the digital activities of small and medium sized enterprises by extrapolating samples from household surveys. Experiences in measuring the impact of the digital economy on specific economic sectors, such as real estate or insurance, would also be welcome.

35. The experience of intergovernmental organizations or NSOs in establishing mechanisms to enable data transfer from technology providers such as mobile phone operators and digital intermediation platforms would also be appreciated, such as data transfer agreements, memorandums of understanding or non-disclosure agreements. More examples of web scraping as a supplementary method for data collection would be welcome.

36. Some delegates noted the need to improve the measurement of the gender dimension in e-commerce and digital economy, to better understand how women participate in the digital economy and support policies, for example, to promote women e-commerce entrepreneurship. These statistics are also important in the context of monitoring progress towards the sustainable development goal of gender equality.

37. Based on the Working Group discussions, the UNCTAD Secretariat suggested that there should be further debate on a definition of the digital economy for statistical purposes, both for clarity in national data production and to improve international comparability.

38. In addition to the substantive proposals, one delegate emphasized the necessity and importance of having knowledge resources such as manuals and toolkits available in more official languages in addition to English. By doing this, the member states can better understand the content of the materials and improve the results of capacity building activities. The Secretariat said it will make its best effort to translate its documents to UN official languages, subject to availability of resources, and encouraged other international organizations to translate their manuals or guidelines as well whenever possible. At the same time, the Secretariat requested the understanding of delegates that it would not be possible to translate presentations from panelists at the Working Group.

39. Another suggestion was that the Secretariat find ways to ensure continuity in the representation of experts that attend the Working Group in collaboration with the Permanent Missions in Geneva. The Secretariat suggested that delegates also spread the word in their national statistical system to coordinate and support representation at the Working Group.

Item 7
Adoption of the Chair's summary

40. The Working Group agreed that a Chair's summary reflecting the key issues discussed during the meeting would be produced after the end of the meeting. The Working Group authorized the Chair and the Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur to finalize the report. The Chair's summary will be submitted to the fifth session of the IGE on E-commerce and Digital Economy.

Conclusion

41. The Working Group concluded that to measure the evolving digital economy, countries need continuous capacity building. Data science is increasingly relevant to meaningful statistical production. Developing countries will need support from development partners, as well as from international and regional organizations to tap into new data sources, including by facilitating access to and providing guidance on private sector data.

42. Based on the discussions of the second meeting of the Working Group, the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy may wish to consider the following:
    a. Encourage development partners to provide funding for the delivery of training, the translation of knowledge resources, and the provision of other capacity building and technical assistance based on the new UNCTAD *Manual*.
    b. Request that the Working Group address the following four topics at its next meeting:
        i. Progress in measuring e-commerce and the digital economy work by relevant international organizations, including in terms of providing knowledge resources in multiple languages;
        ii. Defining the digital economy for statistical purposes;
        iii. Mechanisms to implement web scraping techniques and facilitate data transfers between providers and producers to produce official statistics on e-commerce and the digital economy;
        iv. Measuring the gender dimension in e-commerce and the digital economy.

Annex I

Attendance list of the second meeting of the Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy

1. The Working Group had 215 registered participants from 52 countries, as follows:

Afghanistan
Albania
Azerbaijan
Bangladesh
Belgium
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
Brazil
Burundi
Cambodia
Canada
Congo
Costa Rica
Czechia
Djibouti
Dominican Republic
Egypt
Gambia
India
Indonesia
Jamaica
Kenya
Lebanon
Lesotho
Lithuania
Mauritius
Mexico
Mongolia
Morocco
Nepal
Netherlands
Nicaragua
Niger
Oman
Peru
Portugal
Republic of Moldova
Russian Federation
Senegal
South Africa
Spain
Sri Lanka
State of Palestine
Switzerland
Tunisia
Turkey
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Uruguay
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Viet Nam
Zambia
Zimbabwe

2. Participants from the following intergovernmental organizations and of United Nations and related entities were in attendance:

European Commission of the European Union
International Telecommunications Union (ITU)
Latin American Integration Association (ALADI)
Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
Statistical Centre for the Cooperation Council for the Arab Countries of the Gulf (GCC-Stat)
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA)
United Nations Development Coordination Office
United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-ECLAC)
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA)
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
Universal Postal Union (UPU)
World Trade Organization (WTO)

3. Representatives from civil society and the private sector included:

BASIS E-Commerce Alliance (Bangladesh)
DevStat
GIC CADIRE Cameroon
Global Express Association
ictData
International Network for Standardization of Higher Education Degrees
Nova School of Business and Economics (Portugal)
Organisation Camerounaise de Promotion de la Coopération Économique Internationale
University of the Witwatersrand (South Africa)
Vertical Web Media
Village Suisse ONG
WHD Excellence Consulting
World Wide Web Foundation

Annex II

List of resources referenced at the second meeting of the Working Group

- Brazil, Regional Center for Studies on the Development of the Information Society (Cetic.br), ICT enterprise surveys: https://www.cetic.br/en/pesquisa/empresas/publicacoes/

- ITU *Manual on Measuring ICT Access and Use by Households and Individuals:* https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/manual.aspx

- OECD Going Digital Toolkit: https://goingdigital.oecd.org/. OECD partner countries interested in joining the Toolkit may contact goingdigital@oecd.org

- OECD-WTO-IMF *Handbook on Measuring Digital Trade:* https://www.oecd.org/sdd/its/Handbook-on-Measuring-Digital-Trade.htm

- UNCTAD *B2C E-Commerce Index 2020*: https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/tn_unctad_ict4d17_en.pdf

- UNCTAD *Covid-19 and E-commerce – Findings from a survey of online consumers in 9 countries:* https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/dtlstictinf2020d1_en.pdf

- UNCTAD eTrade for All country profiles: https://etradeforall.org/country-profiles/

- UNCTAD *Manual for the Production of Statistics on the Digital Economy:* https://unctad.org/system/files/information-document/ecde_StatisticsManual_2020_en.pdf

- UNCTAD Technical Note on ICT for Development No. 18, *Estimates of global e-commerce 2019 and preliminary assessment of covid-19 impact on online retail 2020*: https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/tn_unctad_ict4d18_en.pdf

- UNCTAD Train for Trade Project on E-Commerce in South-East Asia: https://tft.unctad.org/projects/trainfortrade-project-in-south-east-asia/

- UNCTAD Train for Trade Programme on Statistics: https://tft.unctad.org/projects/trade-statistics/

- UNCTAD Train for Trade registration for current courses: https://tft-reg.unctad.org/

- UN-ECLAC, *Tracking the digital footprint in Latin America and the Caribbean: Lessons learned from using big data to assess the digital economy*: https://www.cepal.org/en/publications/45484-tracking-digital-footprint-latin-america-and-caribbean-lessons-learned-using-big

- UN Global Platform, Data for the World main page: https://unstats.un.org/bigdata/un-global-platform.cshtml. Further information on online courses under development (mobile phone data, scanner/web-scraping) can be found under the Task Team on Training. National statistical offices interested in joining the UN-CEBD task teams may contact BigData@un.org

- UN Global Platform, free online courses for "Privacy Preserving Techniques": courses.openmined.org

- UPU Postal Statistics: https://www.upu.int/en/Universal-Postal-Union/Activities/Research-Publications/Postal-Statistics

- UPU Monthly Postal Trade Dashboard: https://marketplace.officialstatistics.org/upu-monthly-postal-trade

- WTO technical assistance on measuring digital trade, upon request: https://tamis.wto.org/form/activity-request/create