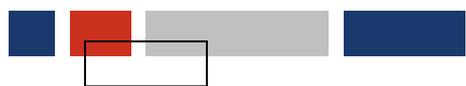


## Workshop on Scanner Data results and next steps



Cristina Fernandes  
National Accounts Department  
Consumer Prices Statistics Sector



# Overview

Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013



- Background
- Motivation
- Results
- Main conclusions
- Next steps





# Background

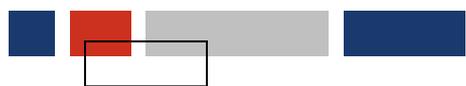
Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013



- Previous Scanner Data (SD) workshops
  - Netherlands (2011)
  - Sweden (2012)
- PT workshop (September 2013)
  - 23 countries, Eurostat and the Network of Price Experts
  - Documentation is available at:

[http://www.ine.pt/xportal/xmain?xpid=INE&xpgid=ine\\_sem\\_lista&tipo=r&detalhe=165101941&xlang=en](http://www.ine.pt/xportal/xmain?xpid=INE&xpgid=ine_sem_lista&tipo=r&detalhe=165101941&xlang=en)





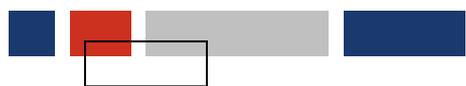
# Motivation

Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013



- To share experiences and to learn
  - Understand how to approach retailers and what kind of data to request
  - Discuss the results already achieved and the way forward





# Results

Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013



## ■ Present situation

- Countries that have no experience with SD and wish to learn from other countries
- Countries that intend to start exploring SD soon
- Countries that are negotiating with retailers or have already approached retailers
- Countries that are testing SD based on retrospective data
- Countries that are already using SD for HICP purposes





# Results

Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013



- The problem of obtaining data from providers

- Main concerns

- Resources involved
  - The effort put in the EAN-COICOP linking process
- Dependence on data suppliers
- How data quality and EAN link to COICOP can be monitored and whether the data can be shared





# Results

Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013

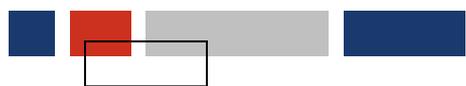


- The problem of obtaining data from providers

- Key aspects

- To share information
- The need for an alternative plan
- Importance of having several countries involved in the project
- Review of legislation





# Results

Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013



- The use of SD as a source for HICP (Network of Price Experts)
  - The potential uses of SD for multipurpose price statistics
  - How SD fits in the current methodology for CPI/HICP compilation
    - price concept, formula restrictions and coverage
  - Pros and cons of using SD for the modernisation of HICP and PPP
  - Conclusions and recommendations
  - Further research





# Results

Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013



- **Studies and practical experiences**
- Comparing traditional CPI / HICP with SD
- Computation methods, calculation and quality adjustments

- Written agreements
- Legal requirement
- Look for a single point of contact
- Give feedback to providers
- Remain flexible on format
- Insist on detailed product characteristics
- Conduct a detailed analysis in order to support the link to COICOP





# Results

Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013



- Studies and practical experiences
  - **Comparing traditional CPI / HICP with SD**
  - Computation methods, calculation and quality adjustments
- Potential uses of SD: quality control, quality adjustments, item selection, weights compilation and price collection
  - Scanner data as an input for the selection of the sample of stores
  - Shelf price /transaction price/ unit price





# Results

Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013



- Studies and practical experiences
- Comparing traditional CPI / HICP with SD
- **Computation methods, calculation and quality adjustments**

- Traditional price collection may be a problem but will still be needed
- SD provides a broader and more detailed assortment of products and goods
- It shows the importance of promotions and discounts
- Characterization of products and their replacements can lead to different results





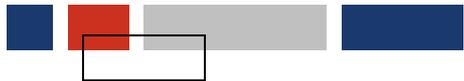
# Results

Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013



- Studies and practical experiences
  - Comparing traditional CPI / HICP with SD
  - **Computation methods, calculation and quality adjustments**
- SD seems to be more volatile
  - Potential high attrition rates
  - Overload of work due to manual product replacement and quality adjustments
  - Definition of replacement criteria supported by automatic processes
  - Impact of product replacements and different quality adjustment methods





# Main conclusions

Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013



- Scanner data must be seen as an opportunity
- Accessing scanner data is realistic
- Exchange of views and experiences between NSIs can save time
- Quality will improve with the use of SD
- Link EAN to COICOP is very time-consuming
- Survey data will still be needed



# Main conclusions

Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013



- Countries can be moving in different directions
- Two different coexisting systems may lead to non-comparability of HICPs and jeopardize harmonization
- Should SD uses be adapted in order to comply with the current legislation or should the existing framework legislation be adapted in order to take account of different data sources?





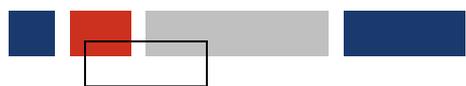
# Main conclusions

Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013



- Eurostat should play a central role in this process
  - Define a clear strategy, establish a standard system and specific guidelines, including a roadmap
  - Set up a SD task force
  - Give financial and technical support
  - Conduct a cost benefit analysis





# Next steps

Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013



- Eurostat
  - Enhance transparency
    - overview of current practices in Member States
    - use the Wiki website on recommendations for setting up a roadmap on obtaining data, cleaning data, EAN link to COICOP, index formula
    - update the Methodological Manual with the recommendations of the roadmap
  - Legal obligations
    - formulate appropriate rules in forthcoming Regulation taking into account the principle of subsidiarity





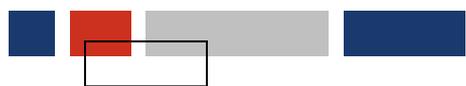
# Next steps

Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013



- Eurostat
  - Scanner data versus survey data
    - set rules for the permitted compilation of scanner data based HICP in order to assure comparability
  - Use a sample or (nearly) all data
    - a harmonised approach should be achieved as current practices differ between countries
  - Link EAN to COICOP
    - create a European repository for mapping EAN to COICOP





# Next steps

Price Statistics Working Group  
Luxembourg, 22-23 October 2013



- A “to do list” was agreed
  - Comments on document by the Network of Price Experts (NSIs)
  - Prepare and send to Member States a new questionnaire on current practices (Eurostat)





**Thank you for  
your attention!**



Cristina Fernandes  
[cristina.fernandes@ine.pt](mailto:cristina.fernandes@ine.pt)

