Update of the CPI Manual

Since the publication of the 2004 Consumer Price Index (CPI) Manual, methods and best practices have continued to evolve. During the 2014 UNECE-ILO CPI Experts Meeting, countries expressed a need for the CPI Manual to better reflect current best practices and to include more practical compilation advice. The Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics (IWGPS), including Eurostat, ILO, IMF, OECD, UNECE, and the World Bank, endorsed and supported an update of the CPI Manual with the IMF as lead agency. The IWGPS was responsible for the overall management and for the final approval of the updated Manual, to be presented for consultation of relevant national statistical authorities, and to be endorsed by the United Nations Statistical Commission.

A Technical Expert Group for the update of the CPI Manual (TEG-CPI) has been formed, including members of the TEG-CPI who represent international price index experts and compilers from national statistical offices. The draft chapters benefited from experience of CPI compilers and users, with comments and inputs provided by a significant number of countries through an online consultation that took place in 2018.

The goal of the update was to produce a CPI Manual that includes more practical compilation advice for compilers. The update was not intended to include fundamental or comprehensive changes. The CPI Manual has global outreach and the update should take into account that the manual targets producers and users in both developed and developing countries. The manual not only provides practical and theoretical guidance to compilers, but also serves as valuable resource for users of CPI data. This presentation will provide an outline of the updated manual, as well as a discussion on the main changes and updates included.