

I. National and international development agendas

1. What role does statistics play in monitoring the achievement of your country's development programmes?

- Korea's official statistics amount to a total of 852 types which portray Korea's current state as accurately as possible. These statistics provide a basis for establishing and monitoring government policies.

2. Does the NSO provide/coordinate the statistics used for monitoring the above programmes? If not, who does?

- (decentralized statistical system) Republic of Korea's statistical system is decentralized in that each government organization is responsible for producing statistics necessary for establishing and monitoring its policies.

* But, 54 basic statistics for government administration including population, industry, price, labor, etc. are produced and released by KOSTAT.

- (statistics approval system) Commissioner of Statistics Korea is responsible for the overall coordination of statistical matters which assures the credibility of statistics and efficiency in statistical system.

* An approval from the Commissioner of Statistics Korea must be obtained in order for the head of statistics producing agency to produce new statistics or to modify or terminate approved statistics.

- KOSTAT is responsible for producing 54 of 852 official statistics. We are also in charge of the National Statistics Approval System.

II. International standards

1. Do you find international standards useful and do you try to apply them whenever possible? If not, please indicate why, and in which areas they are not being applied.

- Providing international standards for producing statistics in areas such as statistical terms, classifications and methods have critical implications for international harmonization.

- In Korea, Statistics Act Article 22 regulates standard classification system to assure accuracy and comparability of statistical data and mandates its use in

compiling official statistics. Five standard classifications have been developed for Korea based on international standards and are being imposed (Korea Standard Industry Classification, Korea Standard Job Classification, Korea Standard Disease and Cause of Death Classification, Korea Standard Trade Classification and Korea Standard Expenses by Purpose Classification).

2. Do you have an effective way of coordinating and imposing standards for statistics within your own country?

- In compliance with the Statistics Act Article 22 (Standard Classification) Line 1, standard classifications are produced and announced and when statistical agencies compile statistics under Line 2, it must abide by standard classification produced and announced according to Line 1. Moreover, based on Statistics Act Enforcement Ordinance Article 25, system regulating approval, amendment, and suspension allow efficient management of statistical standards.

3. In what area would you like to have more standards be developed?

- With the increasing demands for development of statistics for different areas and associated classifications, we hope international community can reach consensus in a timely manner on the coverage of classifications such as crime and green industry and their conceptualization, in order to be applied in statistics and policy work.

4. Do you think the views of developing countries taken sufficiently into account in developing and agreeing on international statistical standards? If not, please suggest a mechanism for improvement.

- Statistics are being developed in accordance with international statistical standards and in consideration of economic and social advancement.

III. Microdata dissemination

1. Do you provide the following micro data sets?

1) Population censuses

- We provide 1% sample, 2% sample and 5% sample of household, housing and

population for public use micro data in the Internet. 10% sample and complete items can be accessed through licensed micro data access centers.

2) Household surveys

- Economically Active Population Survey, Household Consumption Survey, Survey of Private Education Expenses, Social Survey, Time Use Survey, Survey of Household Assets, Local Area Labor Force Survey, Survey of Family Expenditure, Household Income and Expenditure Survey, Labor Force Survey, Survey on Informatization (10 total)

3) Establishment/Enterprise surveys (If yes, specify.)

- Construction Survey, Mining and Manufacturing Survey, Wholesale and Retail Trade Survey, National Establishment Survey, Transport Survey, Census on Establishments, Survey on Service Industry, Census on Service Industry, Survey of Business Activities, and Professional , Scientific and Technical Service Industry Survey (10 total)

2. What kind of disclosure control do you employ?

- For Population and Housing Census, we employ grouping of area with population of 50,000 or less, 'hide' cell option, top-coding, bottom-coding, and sectionalization of continuous data

- There are some differences across surveys. For example, privacy items unavailable, limited access by administrative districts and industrial classifications, categorization of employee size, top-coding and limited number of establishments, etc.

3. Do you have microdata dissemination policy? (If yes, specify.)

- Public use Microdata: offered in CD or on the Internet for anyone to access (<http://mdss.kostat.go.kr>)

- Licensed Microdata: Can be accessed through the Microdata Access Center (MDAC) and Remote Access Service. Users must obtain authorization in advance

by submitting research plan.

- Per user's request, public use microdata can be available in customized tables.
- Service is provided directly by KOSTAT and is free of charge to government agencies and local governments as well as statistical agencies.
- Service is provided by agency other than KOSTAT for charge to general users including individuals and private organizations.