

Ensuring CPI Continuity

Consumer Price Index compilation during crisis





Background:

The global pandemic and related mitigation measures have impacted the normal consumer price index (CPI) data collection and compilation processes. Given the tight compilation schedule and extensive price collection operations, the ramifications for CPI compilation are potentially significant, hindering the provision of key macroeconomic information at the time they are most needed.

Accurate and relevant inflation estimates are not only concern for the policymakers combatting the economic consequences of the current health crisis, but also households and firms taking action in the time of uncertainty. Reliable, trustworthy and transparent inflation estimates, regardless of the crisis impact on the national inflation, will enhance social cohesion and fight fake news.



Participants:

This initial short course is meant for the GCC Statistics Offices CPI managers and senior staff with a broad understanding of the overall CPI production cycle. Depending on the participants' demand, a follow-up training, building upon agreed most relevant issues concerning the GCC CPI compilers, may be provided in relatively short notice. Depending on the topics of the follow-up, an Arabic version of the course may also be considered in order to broaden the list of participants to include e.g. national price collectors. Putting together such course would greatly benefit from close collaboration with national CPI programs in order to respond the current challenges.



Objective:

Advice on available practical and technical methods to overcome or mitigate possible disruptions in national CPI collection and compilation processes; and ☐ Get feedback and share national experience across countries in order to identify both key difficulties experienced as well as best practices.

Tentative Outline:

The tentative course outline is following:

- Global and GCC impact for CPI operations
- Data collection issues
 - Outlet closures
 - Price collector access/mobility
 - New solutions
- Compilation
 - Missing prices
 - Other issues
 - Aggregation
- Dissemination
 - Communication
 - Data Access
 - Publication



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 - Core data
 - New solutions
- Compilation
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Time and Duration:

The online course consists of approximately 90 lecture, a short break and discussion session based on questionnaire shared with registered participants.

Wednesday, 15 April 2020
At 10:00 am

Contact information:

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