SUMMARY RECORD

5th Annual Meeting on International Transport Statistics

25-26 April 2018 OECD, Paris

Chair: Ms Patricia Hu, Director, US Bureau of Transportation Statistics

1. Welcome and objectives of the meeting

The Chair, Ms. Patricia Hu opened the session by emphasising the importance of transport data for policy making. She presented briefly the agenda items that will be discussed during the two days and reminded participants that before closing the meeting they will have the possibility to provide a list of the topics they would like to see in the agenda next year. She also informed that there were 43 participants to the meeting representing 20 countries and 7 international organisations.

M. Jari Kauppila, Head of ITF Statistics and Modelling Unit, welcomed all participants and introduced the meeting background and expected outcomes. The aim of the meeting was to contribute to the development of a more consistent and efficient international framework for transport statistics by promoting exchanges between transport experts from different countries and developing common solutions.

2. Approval of last meeting's minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

3. Transport infrastructure investment and maintenance

3.1. ITF questionnaire on transport infrastructure spending

Ms. Acker informed that the ITF data collection coverage is improving each year thanks to the quality of countries' contribution. The coverage for the 2016 data collection was the best ever with data missing for only 9 countries. As far as capital value data is concerned, the response rate has doubled when compared to last year results.

3.2. ITF project to collect data on infrastructure costs and 3.3. Collecting data for Public Private Partnerships (PPP)

M. Makovsek presented a project the ITF is developing to provide decision makers with information on average cost of infrastructure projects such as the average cost of building one km of motorway. The objective of the database is to collect additional descriptive information on project characteristics, allowing a greater 'apples to apples' comparisons. This would imply collecting all possible evidence on projects cost including data on PPP. The final report will include 18 papers and should be available this fall.

4. Transport Satellite Accounts (TrSA)

M. Kauppila updated the Group on the ITF Transport Satellite Account meeting that took place the day before. The ITF will take the lead to draft a conceptual note describing the purpose and benefits of TrSA and the critical data needs of the System of National Accounts, using concrete countries' examples to illustrate what are the key questions to which TrSA can provide answers.

5. Safety for all transport modes

5.1. Presentation on the ITF Leipzig summit "Transport Safety and Security"

Ms. Crass informed about the next ITF Transport summit (23-25 May 2018, Leipzig). In this event, transport Ministers, CEOs, decision makers, academia, industry representatives…. will address transport safety and security issues, ranging from terrorism and cyber-security to road safety and extreme weather disruption, including the risks and benefits of automated driving.

5.2. Introduction to IRTAD activities

Ms. Feypell described the activities of the IRTAD group on International Traffic Safety Data and Analysis, which is a permanent working group under the umbrella of the ITF, gathering around 80 members from 40 countries. The main outputs of the IRTAD Group are the IRTAD database, with aggregated crash and exposure data, and the annual report on road safety.

5.3. Data requests for the IRTAD program 'Safer City Streets'

M. Santacreu presented to the group transport exposure data needs for the Safer City Streets initiative. He explained why road safety figures are meaningless without transport statistics and suggested to build links between transport statistics providers and road safety people.

5.4. Safety data for other modes

M. Barreto asked if there are countries trying to overcome the challenges of comparing accident statistics for different transport modes. It seems like most countries do not do such comparisons, only Switzerland and the UNECE reported having some studies on this topic.

6. Big Data

6.1. Presentation of Automatic Identification System (AIS)

- M. Lapointe explained how they use AIS to control vessels speeds in the St Lawrence river
- Ms. Hu informed that the USA also uses AIS to measure vessel port waiting time, the data being collected by the US Coast Guards.
- In a tour de table other countries also mentioned concrete examples (UK, SWE, FIN …)

6.2. GIS information

- M. Gagliarducci described how EIB uses GIS information to identify, decide, visualise and communicate on the infrastructure projects they are either already financing or planning to do so.
- M. McKee presented a UK project to link information from mapping agencies with local authorities. The aim being to provide information on the highway network such as size, heights, restrictions to heavy lorries, those responsible for the maintenance …
- M. Lapointe explained how GIS information is used for governance issues with the creation of a Federal Geospatial platform that centralises all the data collected.

6.3. Other suggestions

Ms. Dorgan informed on how they use administrative data to estimate V-Km for vehicles that are less than 4 years old and odometer readings for the older ones.

6.4. Main findings from the ITF Working Group on Big Data

M. Voege updated the Group on the ITF project to develop a framework to facilitate data sharing with the private sector. The aim of the project being to see if the use of big data can reduce the burden of traditional data collections. The final report will come out during this summer.

7. Innovation in transport measurement

The following countries presented on innovations to measure transport:

- M. Petterson described a Swedish project that combines traditional data and mobile phone information to find new solutions for passenger survey.
- M. Ersen explain how Turkey estimates V-km, combining information from odometer readings and other data sources such as the Highway Office and Turkstat
- Ms. Oblak Flander informed on the advantages and challenges Slovenia faced in developing and App in-house to collect passenger mobility.
- M. Lapointe updated the group on how Canada uses existing data to produce performance indicators such as travel time index (from GPS data), trucks fluidity at border crossing (using waiting time data), and truck intercities transit time.

8. Discussion

Given the time constrains this item has been moved to the next day.

9. Visualisation tool

This item is based on lightning talks i.e. a series of 5 minute presentations:

- M. Papaioannou from ITF presented an interactive web development on accessibility to amenities in urban areas. It provides a selection of services that you can weight to rank countries accordingly. This product will be available online before the end of this year.
- Ms. Dorgan presented infographics related to Irish roads transport, providing information such as the increase in road freight movements, the top 10 most popular cars, or vehicle trends by fuel source.
- M. Scrim from Canada described a series of web ranking services from general infographics or standardised look and feel charts to interactive graphics.
- M. Mckee informed about two UK applications, one is an interactive site allowing people to select the data they want on rescue helicopters and visualise it. The second is a map to inform a government consultation on which roads might be eligible for additional funding
- Ms. Chen informed about ICAO aviation data and analysis tool. They linked ICAO data with transport statistics in a dynamic web environment allowing to select a country and benchmark related airlines on O/D traffic flows for city pairs.
- M. Blackburn presented the UNECE Road census and possible developments such as identifying traffic safety black spots, or connectivity at border crossing or potential linkage between the E-road with the E-rail census.

10. Origin/Destination transport surveys

- M. Scrim explained how Canada uses GPS data to track truck routes, and derive the commodity transported and its related value.
- M. Petterson informed about the Swedish commodity flow survey and how it is used for transport modelling and forecast purposes.
- Ms. Kemper presented a National Transport Model for Malta

11. Glossary for Transport Statistics

M. Barreto gave an update on the development of the 5th edition of the Glossary for Transport Statistics. The first draft will be presented this coming June at the next UNECE WP6 in Geneva and the final document will be published in June 2019.

12. ITF projects

12.1. ITF data collections

Ms. Acker gave an overview about the ITF transport data collections.

12.2. ITF Transport Outlook 2019

M. Kauppila presented this years ITF flagship publication which will be available in January 2019 and will focus mainly on transport disruption issues.

12.3. Transport indicators available in OECD.Stat

Ms. Poggi gave an update on the ITF transport indicators. All results are available on the OECD data portal.

13. International Co-operation

- M. Roubanis presented the current and future work at Eurostat and informed on the dates for their next meetings.
- M. Blackburn informed that the next WP6 will be hold on 12-14 June 2018 and that it will include a workshop on inland waterways and its links with intermodal transport. He also presented the UNECE capacity building programme to achieve transport SDG's.
- M. Bolsi presented the 2016 European Commission strategy for low emission mobility and the 2017/2018 Mobility Packages, mentioning also the 2018 "Multimodality" year and the publication "Transport in the EU: current trends and issues".
- Ms. Favre informed about the UIC statistics and their projects to facilitate data collection, improve automatic data checking and also the availability of RAILISA on their website.

14. Next steps and conclusions

The following topics were suggested for the agenda next year:

- Develop the urban mobility concept, define what is a region, a city … (DEU)
- Having lightning talks (10 min) on big data techniques and analytics, how to collect data and turn it into knowledge information (USA)
- Asset management (USA)
- Holistic discussion on how to put all data sources together (AUS)
- How can we communicate around data (CAN), or transport statistics and the role of social media (CHE)

- Information on what is coming out from the ITF Summit in Leipzig (CHE)
- No need for more but better transport data, calculating external costs and negative effects (CHE)
- What is coming out from mobility survey, mobile applications …. (CHE)
- Transition to low carbon economy (CAN)
- How to improve administrative record (TUR)
- How can data influence decision making (USA), what are the strategic actions (AUS)
- How to get relevant and timely data (USA)
- Policy making is moving too fast for statistics, can modellers bridge this gap? (EUROSTAT)
- Country experiences on the use of apps for smartphone/tablet in transport surveys, specifically under a methodological point of view i.e. sample design for app based surveys and how to reach the units, how to match app data with traditional survey data collected for similar purpose, techniques for the calculation of indicators based on app collected data and so on… (ITA)

M. Kauppila informed that the two next ITF Summits will be on “Connectivity" and “Governance" respectively. These are two occasions to organise sessions, in Leipzig, on transport infrastructure issues. Ms. Hu suggested shaping our agenda to feed our work into the Summit.

It was decided that the next ITF international statistics meeting will be held on 11-12 April 2019. However these dates might be changed depending on the OECD meeting room availability so we can have the 6th Statistics meeting back to back with the TrSA working Group. The other possible dates are 16-18 April 2019. A ‘save the date’ email will be sent once the final decision will be taken.