Meeting social scientists’ data need
Paul Rouse
Commented by Torstein Bye

• Some specific remarks/questions
• Information on the Oslo group and the IRES
• Does it help?
Some specific remarks – or just one?

• “There seem to be a lot of data but not well organized”
  – Lack of framework?

• “There seem to be a lot of awful data” – i.e. bad quality
  – If they were related to a framework - that would possibly help?

• “Time series data ok”
  – Aggregated data? – time series of what? How do You know?

• “A website is ok”
  – Well organized and comprehensive but do they fit into a framework?

• “Inconsistency, in delivery, collection and meta data”
  – Not part of a framework

• “Interoperability (policy relevance)”
  – For instance DPSIR and SEEA would help?
  – Evaluation of policy – the R in DPSIR – cf consistency

• IN UK – energy statistics is not within ONS?
InterEnerStat and the Oslo Group

• The UN Statistical Commission at its 37th session (2006) commended the progress made and supported the establishment and mandate of the Oslo Group on Energy Statistics and the Inter-secretariat Working Group on Energy Statistics (InterEnerStat), and requested proper coordination mechanisms between them.

• The present IRES is the result of a close cooperation between UNSD, the Oslo Group and InterEnerStat. In 2006, InterEnerStat started its work on the harmonization of definitions. The list of definitions of energy products in Chapter 3 (of IRES) reflects the outcome of this process.

• UK member in London group - Mr. Ian MacLeay, Head energy balances, prices and publications, Department of Energy and Climate Change
The Oslo Group on Energy Statistics

• “To address issues
  – related to energy statistics
  – contribute to improved international standards
  – improved methods for official energy statistics
  – pooling expertise in the energy community

• Actions:
  – To identify users' needs
  – To define scope of official energy statistics
  – To identify and collect national and international best practices
  – To review and contribute to the updating of UNSD handbooks and manuals on energy statistics
  – To identify gaps in coverage and to develop methodology to cover gaps
  – To adopt link or develop bridges to international standard concepts and classifications in economic/environment statistics to facilitate the integration and interface of energy statistics with other statistical systems
  – To recommend a core set of tables as minimum requirement at national and international level to satisfy major user needs.”
Time schedule

• A draft on international consultation last summer
  – Results from the hearing; 82 different countries, 12 international organizations, most of them agreed

• The result of the hearing will be discussed
  – At the second expert group meeting, 2-3 November 2010 in NY
  – Approve IRES draft

• Last step

• ESCM (Energy Statistics Compilers Manual)
  – Oslo-group meeting in Australia in May 2011.
Summary remarks

• A Framework normally helps with respect to
  – Consistency
  – Relevance
  – Accessibility
  – Even quality and
  – Comparability
  – Interoperability

• IRES and InterEnerStat will probably help
  – If statisticians use the framework intensively

• SEEA would probably help

• If you fund statistics you should probably tell statisticians
  that the money requires that frameworks are addressed

• I hope this helps?