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"Administrative Data/Agencies/Units" How can the HCP assure the quality and coverage of the SBR by using only the administrative sources

The HCP is an independent public establishment of an administrative character in charge of collecting, processing and diffusing socio-economic statistical information (such as population census, labor survey, consumption expenditure survey, structural business surveys...).

The Statistical Business Register (SBR) in Morocco is held by HCP. It plays a key role in the national statistical system by providing the populations of statistical units and their characteristics for conducting all enterprise surveys in order to meet user needs, in particular, those of the national accounts besides of enterprises, policy maker, analysts, researchers. Such statistics usually comprise structure of production, structure of intermediate consumption, structure of gross fixed capital formation and various other types of statistical domains. The SBR uses administrative links enabling the use of administrative sources for statistical purposes. In Morocco, there are three administrative data sources on enterprises:

1. Taxation sources
2. Social security source
3. Central Trade Register.

Until 2011, these files were characterized mainly by the lack of a common identifier and links between the enterprise and its establishments. Many issues are associated with these files because their availability by the HCP is not possible principally the taxation files. To resolve this problem, HCP had conducted in 2001/2002, the first Economic census in Morocco in order to set up the first national statistical business register. But, the set up of business register supposes the contribution of several administrations. Unfortunately, the Tax Administration which has the principal sources for updating has until now not supported the project.

Recently, in 2011, the decree instituting the Common Identifier of Enterprise (ICE) was adopted and will be applied to all enterprises from the 1st of July 2016 onwards. It has 15 positions: 9 digits for the company, 4 digits for its establishments and 2 digits for control. Currently, HCP updates the statistical register on regular basis by using the National Security files, the Central Trade Register and the feedback of the Annual structural business surveys that were designed and implemented by HCP since 2004. But these sources are not exhaustive and are generally limited in terms of information.

HCP aims to re-engineer its business survey systems and its statistical business register in coordination with all relevant departments, mainly the tax administration. To achieve this goal, HCP focuses on providing the legal basis (decree) for most institutional cooperation with the administrative tax authorities to set an exhaustive and updated statistical business register with the ICE in order to modernize the production processes, to harmonize surveys and administrative variables, to reduce the statistical burden and, finally, to produce high quality official economic statistics.