



CENTRAL STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION

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Central Statistical Organization Myanmar

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The International Comparison Program

- ICP is a complex operation that encompasses all components of GDP expenditure
- World's largest data collection initiative: 180+ countries, all regions
- Provides results of price and real expenditure comparisons across economies

Background of ICP for Myanmar

- Myanmar started ICP Program in 2011 implemented by Planning Department and 2017 round ICP project implementing by CSO.
- Planning Department conducted IHLCA two time in 2004-2005 and 2009-2010.
- ICP sampling design based on IHLCA selected townships with the ratio of 1/3.
- Planning Department has transferred conducting of ICP process to Central Statistical Organization (CSO) in 2016.
- CSO collected the price of ICP commodities from Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon for 4th quarter of 2016.

Background of ICP for Myanmar

Implementations Agency

- CSO as National Coordinator
- Planning Department as Deputy National Coordinator

Objectives

- To compare national price level within regional of Asia and Pacific Countries
- To calculate Purchasing Power Parity (PPP)
- To compare economic growth rate by converting PPP to Gross Domestic Product(GDP value)
- To measure poverty line within countries

What is ICP

- Global survey of prices of comparable items across countries and representative within countries
- Global review of GDP - provides the weights to aggregate the PPP Produces:
 - PPP adjusted economic aggregates
 - PPP estimates
 - Internationally comparable price level

Data Requirements

Price Surveys: Annual national average prices

- Household consumption products
 - Product list: include global and regional list
(including sub regional list)
 - Frequency: monthly (except for selected items)
 - Observations: minimum 15 quotations per quarter
(more for larger economies)
 - Coverage: national including rural & urban areas

Data Requirements

- Outlet type: supermarket; dept. store; traditional market etc.
- Prices: transaction prices
- Machinery and equipment
- Construction
- Government compensation

Compare CPI and ICP concepts

Temporal	Spatial
Compare same location at different points in time	Compare different locations at same point in time
Reference: base period	Reference: base country/region
Example: CPI series, GDP at constant prices	Example: ICP, regional price level comparisons

Compare CPI and ICP concepts

Temporal	Spatial
Same product each time – but may adjust for small differences	Same product each place – but may adjust for small differences
Different specifications across different outlets	Same specification across different outlets
Many specifications	One specification

Selecting items pricing (Similarity between ICP and CPI survey framework)

- CPI basket with 274 items (food : 108 and non-food :166)
- Number of items **overlapping between ICP and CPI are 149** items with classes and categories for price collection.
- Although, the *type of fishes* are *not identical* with *ICP classifying fishes*, **generally** it was assumed to be same.
- Besides, *palm oil* is counted as overlapping item though ICP defined package type while it was sold by weight measure without packaging.

	No. of items in CPI basket	No. of items overlapping b/w ICP and CPI
Classes and Categories	274	149
1 Food And Non-Alcoholic Beverages	108	87
Bread And Cereals	14	13
Meat	6	5
Fish And Seafood	29	26
Milk, Cheese And Eggs	6	5
Oils And Fats	4	3
Fruit	9	8
Vegetables	20	12
Sugar, Jam, Honey, Chocolate And Confectionery	3	1
Food Products N.E.C.	17	14
2 Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco And Narcotics	12	5
3 Clothing And Footwear	20	13
4 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas And Other Fuels	20	1
Furnishings, Household Equipment And Routine Household		
5 Maintenance	30	14
6 Health	10	4
7 Transport	18	2
8 Communication	3	3
9 Recreation And Culture	14	5
10 Education	2	2
11 Restaurants And Hotels	15	2
12 Miscellaneous Goods And Services	22	11

* Note B: Similarity between ICP and CPI survey framework

Comparative Study on CPI & ICP

- CPI measures changes in prices; ICP measures levels of prices.
- ICP prices should be according to exact specifications, strictly following every details of the product catalogue.
- They must price exactly the same product in every outlet and substitutions NOT allowed. This is different from CPI where they may price different products in different outlets.

Type of Outlets for 2017 ICP Implementation Plan

1	Large shops
2	Medium / small shops
3	Markets
4	Street outlets
5	Bulk / discount shops
6	Specialized shops
7	Private service provider
8	Public or semi-public service providers
9	Other kinds of trades and outlets

ICP Implementation Process

- Myanmar has implemented 2017 round ICP project assistance by ADB
- Collection period started from May 2017 at (69) township
- Collected monthly prices for food items and quarterly prices for non-food items according to the product catalogue which is contains the following (a)Product code (b)Item name (c)Product Specifications (brand, quantity, unit of measurement, packaging, quality, other price determining characteristics relevant to the product) (d)List group (Global, Asia Pacific)(e)Image (picture of the product to be priced)

ICP Implementation Process

- Collected 742 items (HHs food and non-food items) which are matched with SPD among them 930 items
- Collected the prices of machinery & equipment, electronic and software, housing rental, housing volume, government compensation and construction items once time per year
- Already sent the all data for 2017 round ICP project to ADB

ICP Data Validation Process

- Intra data validation meeting
- CSO ICP team of headquarter has validated with the supervisor of state and regions by quarterly
- CSO ICP team has discussed housing rental prices with the experts of estate agencies
- Regional (within Asia and Pacific) data validation meeting
- ICP project manager and alternative of related person from ICP team have data validated with ADB ICP team

Challenges for CSO

- Handing over only the duty of ICP collection from Planning Department but the most important is **missing technical transfer** which can result not being harmonized with international standard
- Needs of understanding on **calculation of ICP methodology**.
- We need a lot of training and technical assistance for not only price section's staff of head quarter but also regional staff.

Ways forward for ICP

- CSO has plan to implement 2020 round ICP project
- To give the training for sampling method, collection method and analysis software by ADB
- Draw up specific and detail domestic and oversea training programmes to acquire the methodology of price data collection techniques (pre survey preparation and data administration)

Thank You!

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