



# **FORECASTING SKILL SUPPLY AND DEMAND IN EUROPE 2013**

**Expert seminar**

**Creating consistent database and treating breaks  
in the time series in occupational classification**

**Leif Haldorson, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2013**

**[leif.haldorson@bredband.net](mailto:leif.haldorson@bredband.net)**

# Preconditions: ISCO-88(COM) – significant problems of comparability

- Insufficient harmonisation
  - 1-2 meetings since 1994, no other discussion forum
- Some of the problematic areas
  - ✓ Definition of managers (incl. shopkeepers, farmers)
  - ✓ Supervisors
  - ✓ Nurses & teachers (parallel groups in MG 2 & 3)
- Conclusion
  - ✓ Difficult to compare countries. Statistics partly reflect different implementations of ISCO-88(COM).

# Preconditions: The new ISCO-08

- Addressing some of the problematic areas
    - ✓ Managers ► shopkeepers MG 5, farmers MG 6
    - ✓ Supervisors ► mining, manufacturing, construction & office MG 3; cleaning, housekeeping & shop MG 5; all other together with workers supervised (see table 6)
    - ✓ Nurses & teachers ► no parallel groups because of differences in education or training
  - *Nature of work* more important than formal education & training in determining skill level
    - ✓ E.g. All teachers are classified in MG 2 (regardless qualifications held by an individual or predominately in a particular country)
- Note: Have an impact on a model which try to

# Preconditions: ISCO-08 - implementation & harmonisation

- Preliminary (occasionally revised) definitions 2009-11
- No index of occupational titles in English available
- Delayed publications
  - ✓ Volume 1 with structure, group definitions & correspondence tables in English (May 2012)  
Not yet available in French, Spanish or Russian
  - ✓ Volume 2 Index of occupational titles (not published)

But..

- Extensive web discussion forum (since 2008)
- Eurostat-meeting yearly (until 2011); Task force group on the EU-implementation (2010)
- Most EU-countries have revised their national classification considering ISCO-08

# Evaluation of ISCO-08 –what do we know about the coding quality?

- ESSnet on the harmonisation and implementation of an European socio-economic classification (ESeG). Part of WP2, evaluation of ISCO-08 [www.cros-portal.eu/projectdetail/1519](http://www.cros-portal.eu/projectdetail/1519)
- Evaluation of Swedish LFS ISCO-08 indicates:
  - ✓ At one-digit level (total gross error: 13 %)  
Net errors between -7 % and + 13 %  
Gross errors up to + 46 %
  - ✓ At two-digit level (total gross error: 16 %)  
Net errors up to 34 %  
Gross errors up to 52 %

Gross error = incorrectly included + incorrectly excluded

Net error = incorrectly included - incorrectly excluded

# Conclusions & comments

- Analysis of employment shares (occupation, gender, education, age & industry) illustrate the difficulties to construct a useful dataset
- Shifts in occupations *between* sectors account for only a small part of changes (but keep an eye on the growing employment agencies activities!)
- In general, as ISCO-08 is more detailed, it is easier to recode LFS 2011 according to ISCO-88
- Crosswalk ISCO-88-ISCO-08 (one-to-one recode) <http://home.fsw.vu.nl/hbg.ganzeboom/isco08/>
- Some countries can provide data on both bases on request. Many countries struggle with this

# Example: LFS Norway 2011 classified according to both bases

Sysselsatte fordelt på yrke, etter STYRK-08 og STYRK. årsgjennomsnitt. 2011

Source: [www.ssb.no/yrkeaku](http://www.ssb.no/yrkeaku)

	STYRK-08		STYRK (gammel standard)	
	1 000	Prosent	1 000	Prosent
I alt	2 543	100	2 543	100
1 Lederyrker	165	6	170	7
2 Akademiske yrker	642	25	339	13
3 Høyskoleyrker	418	16	643	25
4 Kontoryrker	171	7	169	7
5 Salgs- og serviceyrker	557	22	600	24
6 Bønder, fiskere o.l.	53	2	53	2
7 Håndverkere	242	9	252	10
8 Operatører, sjåførere o.l.	168	7	178	7
9 Andre yrker	127	5	136	5

# Thanks for your attention!





# To discuss

- Is it a good idea to base projections of occupational structure on past trends from ISCO-88?
- Can we ignore data according to ISCO-88 and just use data from 2011- ? (soon 3 years)
- Any other ideas how the projections can be improved?
- .....