How to improve UN-CTS process and data quality

1st Global Meeting of UN-CTS Focal Points
9-11 May 2016
Background

- **UN-CTS data collection in the European Union is conducted by Eurostat**

- **Extra questions for the EU data collection**
Eurostat experience - Process

• 50% of countries sent back data on time
• 70% within 2 weeks
• 85% within 5 weeks

• Validation procedures and questions to countries:
  - sub-totals
  - large revisions
  - large annual change
  - reference metadata
Eurostat experience - Coverage

- Almost 300 data items requested each year
- 50% complete overall
- Above 70% for police data and prisoners
- Low coverage on victimization survey questions
- Some expected data are missing – to be followed up with the countries concerned
Eurostat experience - Accuracy

- Data are from administrative sources – dependent on accurate recording and extraction

- Reference metadata are crucial throughout the UN-CTS – but often missing

- Specific difficulties:
  - city definition and population
  - unsentenced prisoners
  - sub-totals
  - stateless persons
Improvement initiatives

- More detailed guidance for data providers
- Requesting more complete reference metadata
- Methodological guidance
- Training course