



# Statistical Indicators on the Labour Market in the eEconomy (STILE)

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## Special project progress report

**STILE-2000-IST-31099**

May 2002

# Special Project Progress Report

## Part A: Identification

*Project Title:* Statistical Indicators on the Labour Market in the eEconomy  
*Project Number:* IST-2000-31099      *Project Acronym:* STILE  
*Reporting period:* 1 November 2001 – 30 April 2002

### **Project Manager**

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### **List of Partners**

<i>Partner</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Budget (KEURO)</i>	<i>Person - Months</i>
Higher Institute of Labour Studies (HIVA)	C	Belgium	835.979	102
Cork Teleworking Centre (CTC)	P	Ireland	101.947	20
Institute for Employment Studies (IES)	P	United Kingdom	199.320	43
CAMIRE Estadística y Análisis, S.L. (CAMIRE)	P	Luxembourg	131.412	25
Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung (IAB)	P	Germany	104.001	17
Istituto di Ricerche Economiche e Sociali (IRES)	P	Italy	204.181	37
Organisatie voor Strategisch Arbeidsmarktonderzoek (OSA)	P	The Netherlands	176.834	31
Institute of Sociology – Hungarian Academy of Sciences (ISB)	P	Hungary	197.862	28
Central Statistical Office (CSO)	P	Ireland	51.782	11
Joanne H. Pratt Associates	Subc	USA	136.680	19

Project Manager: Monique Ramioul

Date: 22 / 05 /2002

Signature: .....

## Part B: Self-Assessment form

### **B1. Assessment of work done during the reporting period.**

#### **Previous Note**

We kindly invite the project reviewers to visit the **projects' website**, in particular the secure partners' part of it<sup>1</sup>. This part of the website reflects the amount of high quality of work done by all partners in the first project's period. Most presentations from the partner meetings, including the last one (15-17 May 2002), are included and give a good overview of the state-of-the-art of the project to date.

As to the deliverables that should be included in this Report: the project's website (D8.2), [www.stile.be](http://www.stile.be), can easily be consulted at the web. An electronic version of the first issue of the Newsletter (D8.1) is included in the website. A paper version will be distributed at the On Site Review meeting.

#### **1. WP1: coördination and partner meetings**

1. The first partner meeting was held in Month 1. A second partner meeting was held in Month 7, according to the schedule. A third partner meeting is planned in Month 13.
2. At the first kick-off meeting the details of the contract and its annexes were presented to the consortium. The **Consortium Agreement** has been clarified and was agreed on. **A Management Board** as specified within the CA was installed. The mutual rights and obligations were clearly set out and agreed with by all partners. The administrative project arrangements have been presented.  
At the **second partner meeting** (15-17 May 2002) the work done in the running Workpackages was reported on, discussed in-depth and approved within the consortium (see details below). The fact that all partners were represented and that the discussions on the running Workpackages were attended by the whole consortium was a clear added value because it allowed to broaden the perspectives and to have additional input on each individual workpackage. This resulted in more convergence between the different Workpackages and in a stronger cohesion within the consortium.
3. On the administrative matters, the partners fine-tuned the **workschedule** and agreed on meetings and events for the following project years. The forthcoming progress review was discussed as well as some other administrative aspects. There has also been a detailed report and discussion on the recent Eurostat clustering meeting 'Measuring the New Economy' (April 2002).
4. Finally, in order to share all work done within the broad consortium, the secure part of the project website has already strongly proved its added value for the coördination of the project's work. All draft documents, minutes of meetings and workshops, presentations of partners at partner meetings and at related events were put into this secure part for permanent consultation, commenting and use for project related initiatives.

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<sup>1</sup> The access to the secure website should be asked for with the project coördinator

## 2. WP2: extending the coding in the current national CLFS

1. On the basis of a workplan agreed at the kick off partners meeting, the different partners involved in this WP reviewed their **national LF surveys** and their coding on the inclusion of questions that make it possible to monitor the distribution of eWork, the possibilities of gaining insights into the characteristics of the employed workforce involved through the assessment of questions and derived variables. The reports on the national surveys and the potential for further analysis of e-work have been circulated between the partners and as a result of an iterative process between the partners were synthesised in a first Milestone report called "**The Missing E**".
2. The review of the national LFS surveys has revealed that only the UK of the surveys covered (UK, Ireland, Belgium, France and the Netherlands) currently has questions covering the use of electronic devices necessary for telehomework. Equally, most of the surveys examined are very close to the CLFS questionnaire with national variation mainly limited to national occupational classifications and more detailed sector information. The STILE team members involved in this workpackage have, however, provided detailed consultancy to the National Statistical Offices of Ireland and Hungary which have included or envisage including now comparable questions on a trial basis (see WP5).
3. The challenge for those who design the questionnaires and analyse the results must then be formulated as the question of **which dimensions of eWork** it is feasible to capture in a labour force survey, and which further features of eWork are of sufficient policy interest to be worth capturing. We might therefore speak of '*primary*' variables, which can be used to define and identify different types of eWork(ers) and '*secondary*' variables, which can be used to analyse their characteristics.
4. This workpackage drew on the work of Workpackage 5 to identify a **preliminary list of variables** for discussion. Continuing work on this workpackage will involve drawing up a minimal list of questions, designed for inclusion as a regular feature of the CLFS and a longer list, more appropriate for an *ad hoc* module, or for inclusion in other surveys.
5. The Workpackage 2 team will also do further work on analysing the national LFSs to identify questions, which capture some of the '**secondary**' variables relevant for understanding eWork. It will aim to produce a final report designed to fulfil some of the functions of a manual for LFS questionnaire designers concerned to capture the dimensions of eWork.
6. In an iterative process between the partners, and including inputs from US experts, consensus was reached on the most appropriate approach to adopt to ensure that questions on eWork can be included in future LFSs. It is clear that eWork is too **multidimensional and dynamic a concept** to be captured as a single variable by a question such as 'Are you a teleworker (or eWorker)? Rather, any given definition of eWork must be arrived at as a derived variable, each dimension of which must be captured separately.
7. WP2 will also focus on the best routing for including eWork questions, as developed within WP5, in the national and CLFS.
8. From the work done so far, it has become clear that the list of indicators to be developed in WP5 (ad hoc module on eWork) can provide a useful basis for ideas for potential analysis. Further, the wide range of national sectoral and esp. occupational classifications will be providing useful links to WP3 (starting at the beginning of the second projects' year).

## 3. WP4: ICT feasibility study on organisational panel surveys

WP 4 quickly succeeded in forming a real workpackage team by building up a very intensive working communication not only by separate WP meetings but also by a very intense ICT-based

exchange of information and comments of any kind, basing on the long experience of the partner institutes. This made it possible to create the following items within the very short period of not even half a year:

1. **Milestone 4.1: Inventory report** on organisational panel surveys with and without ICT- and labour market aspects. This is a wide-range investigative comment on the state of the art of establishment-level ICT- and labour market surveying. The partners involved in this workpackage have made an inventory of more than 30 relevant EU and non-EU establishment/organisation panel studies. A methodological benchmark of the different organisation/establishment panel studies has been carried out with particular regard to the relation between ICT investments and ICT application on the one hand and organisational innovation, internal and external labour market effects on the other hand. The report detects blind spots in the geographical and 'organisational' (with respect to size and sector) availability of establishment panel surveys. The report analyses divergences regarding sample strategy, data collection, the survey focus, etc. and detects black boxes concerning the prevalence of ICT and the relations between ICT and labour market effects. This means that there is a detailed analysis of which ICT developments and ICT applications and which possible labour market effects are not yet questioned in the existing establishment/organisational panel studies.

The report is so far completed, but due to the rapid changes in the field, WP4 and the other STILE members decided to keep it open for ongoing developments by including them into a finally revised version of the report, which is intended to be part of the final reporting. Its current version is right now to be included to the STILE website.

2. A second WP Milestone, a user-friendly digital toolkit, is presented in its very draft form at the May 2002 STILE partner meeting and will be made available shortly: "**The digital toolkit on organisational panel surveys and ICT**". The structure and design of a user-friendly digital toolkit is constructed to allow both researchers, statistics producers and policy makers to gain quick overview as well as deep insights into methods, techniques and results of ICT- and labour market monitoring on organisational level. The provided hyperlinks will connect the visitor to research institutes, results, questionnaires, methods, databases and even single questions, so it will be easy for users to achieve information and to get inspirations from world-wide expertise for their own research activities. The draft form will in the first resort be available on the secure part of the project website in order to allow all partners to comment on it before it will be finalised as a formal deliverable. Its structure and design is completed, the remaining time will be used to fill and enrich it with substantial information of the kind described.
3. The information of the inventory report lead to a basic structure of a **modular instrument**, which can be used for designing own ICT-survey modules. It will be a questioning module for the investigation of ICT-items, which can be built into establishment surveys, which do already have more or less strong relations to labour market research. It is based on experiences and good-practice examples of relevant surveys throughout the world and will perform on two levels of ICT-questioning, one of a more general and shorter kind, the other with additional and more intense questions provided. It is now under construction.
4. A **study of stakeholders needs** is in preparation, which is supposed to investigate the interests and specify the needs of policy-makers and labour market organisations concerning ICT-and labour market research on establishment level. The concept is ready; the field phase of research is beginning now. It will form the basis for a **strategic action plan** for the improvement of establishment-level ICT- and labour market monitoring.

#### 4. WP5: Ad Hoc module on telework

1. The first focus of the first six months on the partners involved in this WP was to construct a user-friendly inventory of useful **literature study** on eWork and the latest state-of-the-art of measuring telework. A bibliography was compiled containing references for books, reviews and periodicals. Each text was given a reference code according to the theme dealt with. In most of the cases an abstract was also given. This inventory is as an Access database available on the website, including a webform for visitors to add references to it.
2. Right from the start, a short-term decision was imposed in this workpackage to tackle the problem of identifying eWork: the **Irish CSO** planned to include questions on telework in Q3 2002 of the Irish LFS. In addition, the Irish National Statistics Board considers including a telework ad-hoc module in Q3 2003. Also, the Hungarian LFS considers including eWork questions at the very short term. Likewise, the coming reform of the Italian LFS must be assessed with regard to the opportunities to have an input from this WP. With respect to these developments, the STILE consortium revised its time schedules already at the kick-off meeting (month 1) and in particular the agenda for the Irish partner in WP5. Indeed, the Irish partners had to be fully prepared for proposing brief telework questions by February 2002. Although it was not possible to anticipate to the results of WP5 and to produce a complete elaborated telework module before the end of January 2002 (the deadline for the Irish LFS) the workpackage team decided to make an inventory of existing experiences on telework questions at short term, in order to have a sound proposal for the Irish LFS. The UK LFS (which includes telework questions) was an important experience in this respect, and proved indeed to be extremely useful. With the help of the STILE partners, in particular the British IES, and the US subcontractor, the Irish team evaluated all collected material on the issue and elaborated the questions that will be used in Q3 2002. These questions are currently in pilot testing.
3. Different partners of the WP team have contacted Eurostat representatives of their National Statistics Institutes to collect exact information on the developments of the **ICTNEED question**, that Eurostat planned to include, to present the STILE activities and to propose input from the WP team's experience. These contacts have also been important for the preparation of the implementation of the national user groups. The results of the assessment of the Eurostat proposal will be reported in the appropriate deliverable of this WP.
4. Next, the partners have been involved in very intensive interactions and iterative discussions to construct **the list of indicators for monitoring eWork** in employee surveys as a first step and milestone in constructing the survey ad hoc module. These interactions were mainly driven by the inputs of the **national usergroups**, installed in the countries involved, as well as from the US partner who based her input on the experiences of monitoring eWork as an ad hoc module in the US. In Ireland, Hungary, Italy and Belgium national user-groups with experienced scientists and representatives of statistics bodies met in order to discuss possible indicators and their strengths and weaknesses. The list of national usergroupmembers and the minutes of the meetings are available on the secure part of the website. Due to the fact the eWork questions are already included in the UK LFS, the input of the UK consisted in an assessment made in bilateral consultation of national experts on their experiences with the eWork questions in the UK LFS and on the extraction of tables to illustrate the strengths and weaknesses of the questions actually included in the UK LFS. Additional consultation took place with different usergroups (like telecottage organisations).<sup>2</sup> A formal meeting of all usergroups will be

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<sup>2</sup> UK National User Group already consulted informally includes representatives from the Office of National Statistics, the Department of Trade and Industry, the Department of Transport, Environment and Regions, the Trade Union Congress, the Telecottage and Telework Association,

scheduled after the European Usergroupmeeting to discuss the draft questionnaire and methodology.

5. As a result of the discussions in the usergroups and the findings of other research projects (such as EMERGENCE, ECATT) there was however felt a clear need for **broadening the eWork** concept from the 'traditional 'telehomework' to eWork, covering better actual developments in the economy and referring to all (individual forms of) ICT-related distance work. A too narrow definition does not take into account the wide variety of new work patterns that are disseminated as a result of a widespread implementation of ICT. In addition, surveys show the limited dissemination of telehomework as new working pattern, in contrast to the obvious emergence of other forms of telemediated work (such as multilocational eWork). In addition, the added value compared to the existing eWork research was the challenge not only to focus on readiness and intensity of eWork, but also on the **impact** of eWork. This broader perspective is crucial to assess the chances and risk of eWork in terms of social inclusion or exclusion. As a result, the awareness within the consortium of a **longer-term perspective** in monitoring eWork was felt to be essential. This concern was strongly confirmed in some national usergroups, although the need for **short-term usable module and easy-to-include questions** was emphasised at the same time. In addition, the national usergroups revealed, to some extent, different national accents in measuring eWork (e.g. quality of working life versus telecommuting concerns).

As a result of all this, the decision was taken to deploy a **two-pronged strategy** for surveying e-workers: firstly, the development of a **set of about 6 module questions** to the LFS; secondly the design of a **best-practices eWork module**, including the perspective of the impact of ICT-telemediated work on the quality of working life from the perspective of the employee.

6. This decision challenged the consortium to develop a **flexible ad hoc module**, that could reconcile as well analysis at the European level as well as national concerns and the characteristics of the national statistical framework, and as well short term needs for an efficient set of questions, as well as a longer term perspective on measuring the impact and facilitating panel research. The experiences from the US with respect to the piggybacking methodology and with respect to the research on eWork, as well as the additional input from WP2, focusing on the assessment of the national LFSs, allowed the consortium to reach an agreement on indicators and questions for such a flexible module.
7. The **US input** has clearly a two-fold added value. Firstly, the US partner reported on the US experiences on measuring eWork in an effective manner by just asking a few extra questions, adding those to the existing CPS, and by then cross-tabulating these answers with the other variables collected through the survey. In so doing, a very rich dataset can be constructed, enabling to analyse the characteristics of the work force involved in eWork easily. Secondly, the US partner developed the major principles of the piggybacking method that allows constructing a very flexible module, which enables comparisons in time and geographically (between different member states). Through the development of 'nested' questions with increasing levels of detail collapsing into the basic set, it is possible at the same time to compare results at the European level and to investigate more detailed information if the national surveys allow this.

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the National Group on Homeworking. The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and several academic experts. The Confederation of British Industry will also be invited to send a representative to the first formal user group meeting (scheduled for June 2002) along with a selection from the above mentioned organisations.

8. The greatest result achieved to date within this WP is the creation of a **common list of indicators** and their translation into approx. 14 questions for the gauging of remote work to allow the creation of ad hoc modules. These modules will then be included in the questionnaires of preferably the national labour force surveys. Such a result was achieved by working closely with the partners and with the help of the respective national user groups. The indicators have been divided into two categories: "CORE" and "ADDITIONAL". The CORE indicators are considered to be fundamental and so must be inserted in the ad hoc module of the national labour force surveys. "ADDITIONAL" indicators are more qualitative and will be tested along with the 'CORE' questions in the pilot testing.
9. The list of indicators will have its final conclusion at the first **European Usergroupmeeting** end of May 2002. With respect to the first meeting of the European User group for WP5 on the eWork-module, the STILE consortium decided to include this meeting in a broader event: the biennial Labour Market Statistics Conference, organised by Steunpunt Werkgelegenheid, Arbeid en Vorming and HIVA on 29 May at the University in Ghent. This decision offers some interesting additional input from scientists and statistical institutes to the participants and the User group members, and vice versa, to present to the experts invited a larger forum for eventual presentations. It can be expected that approx. 150 participants from academic and statistical organisations attend this event. The conference includes themes which are relevant for other STILE Workpackages, such as: the transition from school to work (including the evaluation of the CLFS ad hoc module on this issue); sub-regional statistics; labour market mobility statistics; nomenclature of sector activities; the development of European Quality of Work indicators.

Although the conference is originally oriented towards the national constituencies, we can expect important input and preparatory work for the various STILE work packages.

10. Finally, the general principles of the **pilottesting of the ad hoc module** have been agreed on at the second partner meeting. The aims of the pilot should include:
- Ensuring that a representative sample of the general working population is reached (so that the questions can be tried out in the widest possible range of different situations)
  - Ensuring that a sufficiently large number of teleworkers are included in the sample to enable the specific questions which only apply to teleworkers can be fully tested
  - Ensuring that the research methodology allows scope for interviewers to probe to discover how questions were interpreted by the respondents to ensure clarity of meaning and common understanding.

The aim is to achieve a high comparability of the 'CORE' questions and at the same time ascertain and analyse the differences in the various countries. For the "ADDITIONAL" questions, the same indicators should be endeavoured to be used by the various partner countries, however there is the possibility to insert some questions specific to the national situation in the pilot testing.

## 5. WP8: Dissemination activities

1. The first two deliverables, **website and first Newsletter**, are delivered in time (with a short delay for the first Newsletter issue due to Christmas break of the printing service). The closed part of the website serves actually as a major platform to exchange draft reports, milestones and interesting documents, to exchange intermediate work (like minutes of national user groups, national reports), to distribute administrative forms (like notes on cost statements). End of May 2002 more than 60 documents were included.
2. The updating of the content of the public part in view of dissemination of the first project results has been discussed at the second partner meeting (May2002). All finalised reports will be

included as well relevant links to other websites (such as other to STILE related projects from SINE and KAI) and other relevant 'external' documents.

3. The content of the next STILE Newsletter (forthcoming in July) has been agreed on at the second partner meeting, including contributions by several partners on first project results of running WP.
4. A common **publication template** (cover and layout) for reports and deliverables was presented.
5. One additional important dissemination activity is the **Belgian Labour market Statistics Conference**, that aims at bringing together Belgian labour market scientists and statistics institutes in view of sharing knowledge on new challenges and developments concerning the statistical measuring of the labour market. The core theme of this year's edition was 'measuring the labour market in the new information economy', and this offered an important forum for the STILE project, in particular the first meeting of the European Usergroupmeeting on eWork (see above).

## 6. Overall assessment: links and synergies between the project workpackages

### 6.1 *Assessment of the main project objectives*

The assessment of the first six months of working clearly confirms that the three key pillars of the project are indeed crucial for the projects' outcome. These three pillars are (see TA):

- 1) **benchmarking**, updating and innovation of existing methodologies and indicators. Effectiveness and efficiency are aimed by focussing the Workpackages less on the development of new surveys or statistics, but rather on innovating and optimising the existing ones and maximising their usability for the broad range of users;
- 2) to contribute to the **knowledge** and insight in key labour market developments of the e-economy. Improving our understanding of the Community's labour market and STILE is focussing on the most relevant new forms of work organisations, work patterns, occupations and on mobility. In so doing, the methodological innovations are tested and validated;
- 3) the systematic organisation of peer review and the active and direct involvement of **users**, focussing at different target groups through the direct and systematic involvement of users and producers of labour market statistics (both from the academic world and the public statistical system).

For the three running Workpackages, the first perspective in particular was the major point of departure. Indeed, the monitoring of labour market related aspects of the New Economy does not start 'from scratch'. On the contrary, a lot of information on labour market developments and new work patterns, survey material and data already exist. The STILE project therefore chooses to focus in particular on '**added value**'. This objective was aimed for by focusing on:

- Benchmarking and assessing the existing instruments (see organisation/establishment surveys and the LFS/CLFS)
- Aiming to improve the existing statistical system (see assessment of the CLFS in view of improving and fine-tuning the classifications)
- Developing modules instead of new questionnaires (see WP4 and WP5)
- Focussing not only on 'readiness and intensity' but including also 'impact' on the quality of work and the quality of organisation (see WP5 and WP4)

As Workpackages continue working, more emphasis will also be put on the elaboration of concrete recommendations and useable endproducts for the statistical and scientific community.

The second perspective, focusing more on **new insights** in the labour market in the new economy will be more prevalent in the next steps of the different Workpackages.

The third perspective, focusing on the direct involvement of **users**, was prevalent mainly in WP5 in this 6 first project months. The organisation of national usergroups to discuss on eWork indicators revealed national accents and concerns in measuring eWork. Those were explicitly reported on and discussed in the May partner meeting. The challenge to aim for a European rather than a national set of indicators was therefore crucial for this meeting. A clear consensus was indeed reached and the list of indicators will have its final conclusion at the first European Usergroupmeeting end of May 2002. On the other hand, the partners involved wanted to finalise the discussions on the core indicators on eWork in time to allow the Irish and the Hungarian partners to offer them to their national Labour Force Surveys. In this respect, one important aim of the STILE project, to collaborate closely with relevant statistics producers, was successful and the consortium is confident that the involvement of and collaboration with NSI will lead to the implementation of the questions developed within STILE within national LFS.

## 6.2 *Towards an integration of the projects' work*

During the first six months of work, the **synergies** of the different Workpackages became more obvious and explicit. Working more complementary was therefore putted forward at the second partner meeting as an important strategy to aim for effectiveness and efficiency. Starting from the broader eWork definition (see above), it is clear that **WP4 and WP5** are investigating similar developments from two different perspectives, the organisation and the employee: whereas the first investigates the impact on performance, HRM and labour market issues, the second focuses on the impact on the quality of working life at the level of the workforce involved. In the development of the digital toolkit (WP4) it appeared already how important it is to find consensus on valid and reliable questions for measuring ICT-related work patterns in establishment surveys, the same appeared in the development of eWork related indicators and questions from the employee perspective in WP5.

On the other hand, several developments imposed the consortium to act quickly and efficiently at the short term, in particular with respect to the Irish and the Hungarian LFS and the Eurostat plans on including ICT questions in the CLFS. In this respect, the assessment of the different National LFSs concerning their strengths and weaknesses in analysing the characteristics of eWorkers, once eWork questions would be included, was necessary. This revealed the close links between **WP5 and WP2** and the results of WP2 (focusing on the assessment of national LFS) were therefore directly useful. A further fine-tuning between the two WP is discussed in the May partner meeting.

**B2. Current project status**

<i>As at (end of reporting date)</i> .....	<i>Number</i>	<i>Comments, problems with deadlines</i>
Deliverables submitted during reporting period	D8.1 (first issue) D8.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Newsletter, widely distributed</li> <li>• Project website, incl. Partners' closed part for sharing documents (Under continuous updating)</li> </ul>
Deliverables acknowledged by EUROSTAT		
Late deliverables - for reporting period	D8.1 (3 weeks)	Due to Christmas closing of printing services.

**B3. Work done**

Are project objectives being met? <i>Grade from 0 (not at all) to 4 (totally)</i>	Score	Comments
<p>innovative methodologies and content on the statistical monitoring of the labour market in the e-economy to support the statistic requirements of the IST Programme;</p>	3	<p>1. <i>Work in progress</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the innovativeness mainly refers to making the project results effective by improving the existing statistical instruments at the national and the European level (the piggybacking strategy, developing of modules and recommendations, the improvement of codification...) rather than to develop totally new instruments. Taking into account the fact that the work is still in progress, the focus of the work done in the first six project months was indeed focusing on that perspective.</li> <li>• The clear targetting towards the statistical and scientific community is a key characteristic of the projects. NSI are actively involved in the project</li> </ul>
<p>an extension of the coding of the Community Labour Force Survey (CLFS) to take into account e-work by generating data at a more disaggregated level for selected categories; to derive recommendations as to where extensions of the current coding processes can provide more detail and more information about e-work;</p>	3	<p>2. <i>Work in progress</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WP 2's present status fits properly into proposed time schedules. The internal deliveries fully meet the standards in time, quality and quantity, and the future workplans also allow to estimate, that the future objectives will be met .</li> <li>• National and synthesis reports on the strengths and weaknesses of the national CLFS are finalised.</li> </ul>
<p>best practice recommendations on how NACE rev. 1 and ISCO could be updated to better account for e-business and e-work;</p>	N.A.	<p>3. <i>not yet started</i></p>
<p>benchmarks on the methods of existing organisational panel surveys in the way they take into account ICT-related indicators with reference to (internal) labour market issues. To generate the innovation process of monitoring systems by disseminating best practices and by designing and developing instruments for monitoring ICT-related labour market issues, thus maximising the effectiveness and cost-efficiency of short-term surveying of organisational changes related to the penetration of ICT;</p>	3	<p>4. <i>Work in progress</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inventory report finalised;</li> <li>• digital toolkit available in draft form for commenting by consortium. Skeleton for module and study of user's needs ready.</li> <li>• WP 4's present status fits properly into proposed time schedules. All internal deliveries fully meet the standards in time, quality and quantity, and the drafts and workshop presentations of the future work also show good results and allow to estimate, that the future objectives will be met without any problems.</li> </ul>
<p>an internationally standardised indicator to measure telework effectively, and a set of reliable and valid questions as a module to be added onto existing national and European Labour Force Surveys (LFS) in order to maximise the effectiveness and cost-efficiency of short-term monitoring of the dissemination of telework as a key new work pattern in the Information Society;</p>	3	<p>5. <i>Work in progress</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WP 5's present status fits properly into proposed time schedules. All internal deliveries fully meet the standards in time, quality and quantity, and the drafts presentations of the future work also show good results and allow to estimate, that the future objectives will be met.</li> <li>• The guidelines given at the planning stage were substantially adhered to in WP5. In fact the various foreseen activities have been done: a broad-based recognition of existent literature and studies; followed by the drawing up of a list of indicators to gauge telework and the definition of the methodology for the pilot testing.</li> <li>• Literature study available on website;</li> <li>• Indicators finalised in the different national usergroups. Consensus reached within the consortium to be concluded at the European Usergroup (May 2002)</li> <li>• Implementation of pilot questions on eWork as proposed by the consortium in Irish CLFS</li> <li>• Implementation of questions envisaged in the</li> </ul>

Is work done within the project budget?	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Comments</i>
Major achievements within reporting period	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. WP1: Consortium agreement agreed and management structure implemented</li> <li>2. WP2: National reports and synthesis reports on strengths and weaknesses of national CLFS in investigating eWork and characteristics</li> <li>3. WP4: Inventory and assessment of organisation/establishment surveys, ICT and internal and external labour market effects</li> <li>4. WP4: Draft interactive toolkit on ICT questions for organisation/establishment questions on ICT and labour market effects</li> <li>5. WP4: Concept of study of user's needs ready for field work</li> <li>6. WP4: Basic principles for module for organisational surveys agreed</li> <li>7. WP5: eWork Literature study</li> <li>8. WP5: agreement on two-pronged strategy for LFS module and best practices module</li> <li>9. WP5: List of eWork indicators developed in national usergroups</li> <li>10. WP5: agreement on issues to be investigated with modules (incl. impact on quality of working life)</li> <li>11. WP5: consensus on core European eWork indicators and flexible module principles</li> <li>12. WP5: European Usergroup installed, first meeting at the Labour market Statistics Conference</li> <li>13. WP5: Active involvement of Statistics Institutes an international eWork experts</li> <li>14. WP5: Inclusion of eWork questions in two LFS envisaged</li> <li>15. WP8: Website and Newsletter launched and updating planned</li> <li>16. WP8: More synergy and convergence between three running Workpackages</li> <li>17. WP8: More focused clustering envisaged with EMERGENCE, ENMOB, eLiving, NESIS and SIBIS</li> </ol>	
<i>Details of expected end-products (Details in E.7.1)</i>		
Name	Type	Comment
D2.1: National reports on extending the use of the LFS for analysis of e-work D2.2: Synthesis report on the potential for extended coding of the LFS for analysis of e-work:	Report  Report	
D4.1: Report on innovative design and modular instrument. D4.2: Website and interactive digital toolkit including modular instrument D4.3: Final report, including an Action plan	Report  Website, digital toolkit  Report	To be developed in late 2002, based on the results of the Study of Stakeholders Needs and other project results

<p>D5.1: Set of tables and publication forms resulting from the pilot testing in different countries. Report on conditions for adding the set onto existing national surveys</p> <p>D5.2: Report on measuring telework in the CLFS, incl. strategic action plan and recommendations to Eurostat</p> <p>D5.3: Final report on measuring telework</p>	<p>Report</p> <p>Report</p> <p>Report</p>	
<p>D8.1: Project presentation newsletter.</p> <p>D8.2: Project dissemination website</p> <p>D8.3: European conference</p> <p>D8.4: Final report</p>	<p>Newsletters</p> <p>Website</p> <p>Conference</p> <p>Report</p>	

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## **B4. Outline proposed changes to plan (*Details in D*)**

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### **1. WP2: extending the coding in the current national CLFS**

In terms of milestones and deliverables only change to the plan for WP2 has been the decision to include the workpackage meeting due in April 2002 (milestone M2.1) in with the project partner meeting in May 2002. Otherwise all WP2 milestones have been met and as there have been no scheduled deliverables by this stage there has been no slippage in deliverables.

### **2. WP5: Ad Hoc module on telework**

Taking the developments in the Irish CLFS into consideration, the Irish contribution to WP5 had to be revised. First, because of the short-term preparation of the telework questions for the Irish LFS. Second, because of the planned Irish module. In WP5 a limited pilot testing (sample of 200) of the developed telework questions is included for the WP5 participants (HIVA-Belgium, IES-UK, ISB-Hungary, IRES-Italy, CTC/CSO-Ireland) with the aim to assess the validity and reliability of the proposed questions. Since the questions will be included in any case, the Irish pilot testing, based on a sample of 200, has no more relevance for the Irish LFS. However, this development allows complementary inputs to the STILE work. First, the assessment of the pilot studies in the other four countries. Second, the Irish partners can investigate the practical reality of producing a module which can be carried out by national statistics offices (filtering issues, length, and compatibility,) and which uses a much larger sample. The brief Q3 2002 Irish questions can be seen as a pilot also for the development of working relationships and provides information on different aspects of this collaboration with national statistics boards. The Irish Usergroup will focus in particular on these contributions.

Due to the fact the eWork questions are already included in the UK LFS, the input of the UK consisted in an assessment made in bilateral consultation of national experts on their experiences with the eWork questions in the UK LFS and on the extraction of tables to illustrate the strengths and weaknesses of the questions actually included in the UK LFS. Additional consultation took place with different usergroups (like telecottage organisations)<sup>3</sup> In view of the questionnaire and the pilottesting, a UK Usergroup is set up for June 2002.

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## **B5. Expectations for Implementation and/or Exploitation (*Details in E*)**

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### **1. WP2: extending the coding in the current national CLFS**

WP2 will produce a final report for the user community which will propose a minimum set of questions designed to capture eWork in national LFSs and the Community LFS. It will also highlight those additional variables in existing surveys, which can usefully be cross-tabulated with these 'eWork questions'. Where such questions exist only in a few countries and have been found

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<sup>3</sup> UK National User Group already consulted informally includes representatives from the Office of National Statistics, the Department of Trade and Industry, the Department of Transport, Environment and Regions, the Trade Union Congress, the Telecottage and Telework Association, the National Group on Homeworking. The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and several academic experts. The Confederation of British Industry will also be invited to send a representative to the first formal user group meeting (scheduled for June 2002) along with a selection from the above mentioned organisations.

useful for analysing eWork, it will attempt to identify the optimal wording for these questions and make recommendations for their more general adoption.

In addition to influencing the questions in regular national LFSs and hopefully also the CLFS, WP2 will also make inputs to WP5, which will design and test an *ad hoc* module for surveying eWorkers.

## **2. WP4: ICT feasibility study on organisational panel surveys**

By offering not only scientific paperwork but also a digital toolkit and a internet-readable modular instrument the WP4 team makes a contribution not only to enrich scientific discussions but also to the unification of EU labour market research, which we hope to allow a more precise monitoring and international comparison of the ongoing changes of the labour market in the EC and the underlying impacts of new information and communication technologies.

At the end of this WP and the deliverable of all related end products of this WP, the WP4 partners are planning to publish some articles in academic journals (2003).

## **3. WP5: Ad Hoc module on telework**

Through the national user groups, STILE partners are working closely with National Statistical Offices and other users (including academic users and the Social Partners) in the participating countries, leading to a high probability that the results will be implemented. The UK partner has already designed the questions used in the UK LFS since 1997 and STILE team members have already been active in the wording of new eWork questions for the Hungarian and Irish LFSs.

Different partners of the WP team have contacted Eurostat representatives of their National Statistics Institutes to collect exact information on the developments of the **ICTNEED question**, that Eurostat planned to include, to present the STILE activities and to propose input from the WP team's experience. These contacts have also been important for the preparation of the implementation of the national user groups. In the case of Italy, this step is all the more important because the Italian LFS is currently in review for the implementation of a continuous survey.

The European User Group takes this WP5 process one step further, involving Eurostat, the European Commission and a broader range of users, including representatives from NSOs in countries not directly involved in WP5. Further, the decision to include the first meeting of the European Usergroup in a broader conference on Labour market statistics offers some interesting additional input from scientists and statistical institutes to the participants and the User group members, and vice versa, to present to the experts invited a larger forum for eventual presentations. It can be expected that approx. 150 participants from academic and statistical organisations attend this event. Although the conference is originally oriented towards the national constituencies, we can expect important input and preparatory work for the various STILE work packages.

**B6. EUROSTAT observations**

*(to be completed by EUROSTAT Project Officer)*

Persons consulted:

EUROSTAT Project Officer: .....  
Date:     /     /2000

Signature: .....