

Kari Manninen

EconAdvisor · Independent statistical consultant

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PROFILE

Independent statistical consultant with **twenty years' international experience** helping national and regional statistical systems develop their official economic statistics. Long-term collaborations with **IMF** and **GCC-Stat**; specialisations in *price and short-term economic indicators, composite indicator design, and reproducible R-based statistical pipelines* surfaced through interactive web dashboards. Eighteen countries; assignments across the Middle East, Europe, Central and Western Asia, the Caribbean, and Africa.

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

EconAdvisor — Founder & Principal Consultant

2004 – present

Self-employed — Udine, Italy

One-person consultancy serving national statistical offices, regional statistical organisations, and international development partners — directly and as Key Expert / Team Leader for IMF, GIZ, ICON Institute, Inter-American Development Bank, Devstat, and others. Recent focus: composite indicators (regional integration, economic diversification) and Shiny-based public dashboards for GCC member states.

Economic Statistics & Data Management Adviser

2018 – 2022; short-term expert 2022 – present

GCC-Stat (Statistical Centre for the Cooperation Council for the Arab Countries of the Gulf) — Muscat, Oman

In-house adviser to the GCC Statistical Centre and its six member states. Led the harmonised regional programme for price and short-term economic statistics; advised on data management end-to-end, from collection through dissemination, including standards adoption and tool implementation. Continued post-2022 as short-term expert delivering composite indices and public-facing dashboards.

Statistician (P4)

2016 – 2018

UN International Civil Service Commission — New York, USA

Methodological development of cost-of-living measurement for the UN common salary system, combining local price surveys, national CPIs, and administrative sources to equalise purchasing power across 200+ duty stations for roughly 100,000 international civil servants.

Team Leader — Sector Review of Price Statistics

Dec 2021

EUROSTAT / National Statistics Office of Georgia (GEOSTAT) — Tbilisi, Georgia

Two-person evaluation team within the EUROSTAT-funded *Global Assessments, Peer Reviews and Sector Reviews for European Neighbourhood Policy countries* programme. Analysed GEOSTAT's statistical production processes in price statistics.

Statistics Adviser, Short-Term Economic Statistics

2014 – 2016

GCC-Stat — Muscat, Oman

Led methodological development of the harmonised GCC Consumer Price Index, Producer Price Index, and Production Indices. Technical assistance to all six GCC member states on CPI, PPI, and Residential Property Price Index. Liaison with UN agencies, IMF, European Commission, and other partners on capacity-building coordination.

Team Leader & Key Expert, Economic Statistics

2013

GIZ International — Kabul, Afghanistan

Full financial and managerial responsibility for a USD 6.4 million, four-year World Bank-financed *Statistics for Results Facility* programme building capacity in the Afghan statistical system through a twinning partnership with the Afghan government.

Lead Expert, Consumer Price Statistics

2013

ICON Institute — Udine, Italy (EU project)

EU-funded *Supply of Statistical Services for Methodological Support in Price Statistics*.

Methodology papers for the European Commission; ad-hoc support to EUROSTAT and member states on HICP, house-price, and PPP compilation; in-depth studies on further development of HICP.

Statistics Adviser

2007 – 2012

Sultanate of Oman, Ministry of National Economy — Muscat, Oman

Long- and short-term advisory across short-term economic statistics: developed the Industrial PPI, Industrial Production Index, real estate price statistics, and forward-looking indicators; advised on CPI, statistical strategy, and metadata.

Price Statistics Expert (external short-term)

2002 – 2012

International Monetary Fund (IMF) — Washington D.C., USA

Technical assistance and evaluation in official price statistics. Member of ROSC missions assessing price statistics across Western and Eastern Europe, Africa, the Caribbean, Middle East, and Asia.

Senior Statistician

1999 – 2005

Statistics Finland — Helsinki, Finland

Project manager for statistical development projects; Head of the Finnish Producer Price Index programme; national representative in EU and international groups on price indices and measurement (Ottawa Group, Voorburg Group, Eurostat and OECD Task Forces). Seconded to Washington D.C. 2001–2003 as visiting researcher at the *Bureau of Economic Analysis*, working on quality adjustment and price-volume measurement in National Accounts.

Earlier: Lecturer (substitute) in applied mathematics and assistant in econometrics, University of Helsinki (1996 – 1999).

EDUCATION

MSc in Social Sciences, Economics — University of Helsinki, 1998.

Specialisation in econometrics. Master's thesis: *Hedonic Residential Rental Price Index based on administrative data from Statistics Finland*.

PUBLICATIONS

2015 *Experimental Aggregate GCC Consumer Price Change Estimates* — Ottawa Group.

2006 *Hedonic Regressions: A Transaction Economy Approach* — Ottawa Group.

2005 *Hedonic Price Indices for Digital Cameras* — Survey of Current Business.

LANGUAGES & TOOLS

Languages: Finnish (native); English (C2); Italian (B1–B2); Spanish (A2–B1).

Statistical & data tools: R (advanced — production pipelines, Shiny dashboards, package development); SQL; SAS (intermediate); Python (basic); standard office and collaboration tooling.