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## CD-Box 5.2 Disseminating information: The IMF's publishing operations and Web site

The IMF publishes a wide variety of material targeted at a broad range of readerships. Many of the Fund's publications are available both in print and on its Web site ([www.imf.org](http://www.imf.org)); selected publications are also available in languages other than English.

- The *World Economic Outlook* (WEO) and the *Global Financial Stability Report* (GFSR) are the main vehicles through which the IMF publicizes its global surveillance findings and some of its most significant analytical work.
- The IMF releases a large number of reports and other documents covering economic and financial developments and trends in member countries, including Article IV Reports, Reports Related to Use of IMF Resources, Selected Issues papers, and Statistical Appendixes. Each report, based on the staff's analytical work and meetings with country officials, is prepared independently by a staff team and published at the option of the member. In almost all cases, Executive Board discussions of these papers are summarized in Public Information Notices (PINs), which are available on the IMF's Web site.
- The IMF's *Annual Report* provides a comprehensive look at the IMF's activities in each financial year.
- The *Annual Report on Exchange Arrangements and Exchange Restrictions* presents information on the exchange and trade systems of the IMF's member countries.
- Research on the international monetary system and other topical subjects by IMF staff, as well as by academics and practitioners outside the IMF, is published in *IMF Staff Papers*, a quarterly journal. The quarterly newsletter *IMF Research Bulletin*, IMF Working Papers series, Occasional Papers series, books, and various other publications disseminate a wide array of IMF staff research on the international monetary system.
- The Fund's *Dissemination Standards Bulletin Board* ([dsbb.imf.org/Applications/web/dsbbhome/](http://dsbb.imf.org/Applications/web/dsbbhome/)) provides links to the data and statistical Web sites of subscribers to the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) and participants in the General Data Dissemination System (GDDS) and presents comprehensive information on the methods and practices behind the compilation and dissemination of such data in a user-friendly format comparable across countries.
- *International Financial Statistics* (IFS), produced monthly, provides updated financial information from countries around the world; the IMF's Statistics Department also produces a yearbook containing annual data over 12 years for the countries covered in the monthly publication. Other statistical publications include the *Balance of Payments (BOP) Statistics Yearbook*, *Government Finance Statistics Yearbook*, and *Direction of Trade (DOT) Statistics*. The IFS, BOP, and DOT databases are available online to subscribers.
- Guides and manuals published by the Fund cover a variety of subjects, such as balance of payments statistics and compilation, external debt statistics, foreign direct investment trends, monetary and financial statistics, the producer price index, and financial soundness indicators.
- The online *IMF Survey Magazine* reports on current IMF policies and activities ([www.imf.org](http://www.imf.org)). A print edition is mailed monthly to subscribers.
- The quarterly magazine *Finance and Development* (F&D) and the Economic Issues series (pamphlets on broad economic subjects related to the Fund's areas of expertise) are written in nontechnical language and aimed at disseminating information on topical subjects to nonspecialists.
- Pamphlets such as *What Is the IMF?* and *IMF Technical Assistance* are written for the nonspecialist, as are the factsheets posted on the IMF's Web site, which explain key aspects of IMF operations and policies.

- *Issues Briefs*, available online, provide nontechnical descriptions of, and contribute to the debate on, policy issues of topical interest.
  - Op-eds in publications worldwide and speeches published on the external Web site offer broad overviews of the IMF and its policies.
  - An online, quarterly *Civil Society Newsletter* ([www.imf.org/external/np/exr/cs/eng/index.asp](http://www.imf.org/external/np/exr/cs/eng/index.asp)) covers IMF activities and issues of particular interest to civil society organizations.
  - A Web page for legislators ([www.imf.org/external/np/legislators/index.htm](http://www.imf.org/external/np/legislators/index.htm)) provides a forum for interactive discussions on issues relevant to the IMF and features IMF activities and information of particular interest to legislators.
  - Videos about the work of the IMF are available to interested media, educational institutions, and social organizations, and are also used in recruitment activities.
  - Educational material is available from the IMF Center and at [www.imf.org/econed](http://www.imf.org/econed). The bookstore and gift shop in the IMF Center are open to the general public.
  - A quarterly electronic newsletter, *New and Noteworthy*, is e-mailed worldwide to inform external audiences of new and upcoming IMF publications and information products.
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