Main feedback from the G20 DGI-2 Workshop on Promotion of Data sharing – 24-25 March 2021

As a follow-up to the status report on the implementation of Recommendation II.20 “Promotion of Data Sharing”, the IMF, Eurostat and the Deutsche Bundesbank jointly hosted this virtual G20 DGI-2 Workshop. The goal was to take stock of the recent main developments in participating economies, regional and international organisations, obtain an overview of the progress in thematic fields supporting the sharing of microdata, study international initiatives of data sharing in non-statistical areas, and to discuss the potential usefulness of developing an international standard for microdata.

The Workshop concluded to support the launching of follow-up work on developing an international micro data standard, to investigate what is feasible, including how a form of self-commitment by countries could be introduced.

Both International Organisations and G20 economies will be invited to participate in this work. There will also be cooperation with INEXDA and other groups to identify, share and document good practices (e.g. access for research purposes, cooperation between public and private sectors, open data initiatives, and good practices from non-statistical examples of data sharing).

Work on the standard will consider principles, enablers, and users relating to data sharing. In particular it will cover:

- the benefits of data sharing (“value” to users and to respondents);
- how privacy and cybersecurity can be assured;
- the use of new architecture, tools and staff skills to facilitate the use of microdata (potentially through different models, for example privacy-preserving techniques and new encryption techniques) and to promote efficiency;
- national (and international) legal issues relating to the exchange of confidential information;
- fostering of cooperation with major data holders (with a clear link to the Italian G20 Presidency initiative on access to data).

A proposal for the procedure will be developed for presentation to the 2021 G20 DGI Global Conference.