2026 STATISTICS CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AT A GLANCE

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

STATISTICS

Statistics Long-term Expert Working Visit, IMF Headquarters, Washington, DC, April 2026.

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STATISTICS


Statistics Capacity Development Workstreams
Real Sector
National Accounts
Price Statistics
High-Frequency Indicators
Data Management and Dissemination Standards
e-GDDS
SDDS
SDDS Plus
Big Data
Data Management Systems
Environment and Climate Change
Energy and Air Emission Accounts
Natural Resources Accounts
Physical and Transition Risk Indicators
Climate Expenditures, Subsidies, and Finance
External Sector
Balance of Payments
International Investment Position
External Debt Statistics
Financial Sector
Financial Access Survey
Financial Soundness Indicators
Monetary and Financial Statistics
Fiscal Sector
Public Sector Balance Sheet
Public Sector Debt Statistics
Government Finance Statistics

Preface

Bo Li
Deputy Managing Director

In an increasingly complex and rapidly evolving global economy, strong economic policies depend on one essential foundation: high-quality data. As digitalization accelerates, cross-border linkages deepen, and emerging technologies—including artificial intelligence—reshape economic activity, policymakers require timely, reliable, and internationally comparable statistics to navigate uncertainty, manage risks, and seize new opportunities.

Helping countries build and sustain this foundation is a core part of the IMF's mission. Through capacity development (CD), the IMF supports member countries in strengthening economic institutions and enhancing the skills, systems, and frameworks needed for effective policymaking. Within this effort, the IMF Statistics Department (STA) works closely with national statistical offices, central banks, ministries of finance, and other data-producing agencies, to modernize statistical systems and improve the quality, coverage, and accessibility of macroeconomic and financial statistics.

STA's approach brings technical assistance, training, and innovation together to achieve high impact. This work strengthens transparency, supports evidence-based decision-making, and contributes to more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable economic outcomes. STA's CD also supports greater integration with surveillance and lending through close collaboration with IMF Area and functional Departments. This collaboration is critical for our teams that rely on high-quality and reliable macroeconomic data to perform their work.

I am delighted to see another edition of *Statistics Capacity Development at a Glance*. This publication highlights the impact of STA's CD activities over the past fiscal year. It showcases how countries are advancing their statistical capabilities, how partnerships are helping accelerate progress, and how stronger data are supporting better policy decisions around the world. The achievements presented here reflect the commitment of our member countries, the dedication of our staff and experts, and the invaluable support of our development partners. I would like to thank STA for its continued commitment to strengthening its CD business model to meet our membership needs. Together, we are helping build the statistical foundations needed to meet today's challenges and prepare for tomorrow's opportunities.

Introduction

Bert Kroese
Chief Statistician, Data Officer, and
Director of the Statistics Department, IMF

As countries navigate the evolving global economic environment, the demand for high-quality, timely, and more granular data to inform policymaking continues to grow. The IMF Statistics Department (STA) responds to this demand by helping member countries *strengthen statistical institutions, build staff capacity*, and *address critical data gaps*. Our support combines diagnostics, technical assistance, and training tailored to country circumstances and regional priorities. By combining hands-on support from Headquarters and our network of long- and short-term experts with advances in international statistical standards, new diagnostic tools, and stronger peer learning initiatives, STA helps countries develop lasting institutional capacity and adapt to an evolving data landscape.

STA is also adapting how it delivers capacity development (CD). Our work increasingly emphasizes country ownership of reforms, stronger institutional coordination, and greater use of data in policymaking. Meanwhile, innovative digital solutions are reshaping the statistical landscape, with artificial intelligence and big data applications expanding the possibilities for how countries produce, disseminate, and use official statistics. Our role is to help countries harness these opportunities while maintaining the quality, comparability, and data governance frameworks that underpin official statistics. These priorities also inform STA's ongoing work to develop a medium-term strategy for statistics CD.

This publication[1] provides a concise overview of STA's CD, including FY2026 highlights, partnerships, results, and impact stories from the field. It highlights significant progress across a range of focus areas, including efforts to strengthen statistical systems, improve data dissemination, adopt new technologies, and address emerging challenges such as climate change and digitalization. The achievements reflect our close collaboration with country authorities, development partners, and other IMF departments. In particular, our close engagement with IMF Area Departments ensures that our work is aligned with surveillance, lending, and broader policy priorities. I am grateful for the trust of our member countries, the commitment of our development partners, and the dedication of our staff, long-term resident advisors, and short-term experts to our mission. Their collective efforts enable better data to support better policies and stronger economic outcomes in uncertain times.

[1] This publication was prepared by staff in STA's Resource Management Division (STARM) with overall guidance from Andrea Lemgruber, Deputy Director, STA; and under the direction of Paul Austin, Division Chief, STARM. The core STARM team comprised William Wakuganda (lead), Evelyn Chou, and Azziza Trotter. Other STA contributors included Thomas Alexander, Justine Ayebere, Andrew Baer, Malik Bani Hani, P. Bhanumati, Barra Casey, Barend De La Beer, Fozan Fareed, Maja Gavrilovic, Brian Graf, Ivana Jablonska, Topias Leino, Iyke Maduako, Margarida Martins, Donna Muwonge, Mohamed Norat, Ragnhild Nygaard, Renato Perez, Emmanuel Ramathuba, Nelson Rutto, Alberto Sanchez, Mario Saraiva, Anthony Silungwe, Oxana Soclea, Alessandra Sozzi, Dilson Tiny, and Samah Torchani. STA management teams and other staff and the CSF team led by Razan Elbaba who contributed to the production of this publication are also gratefully acknowledged.

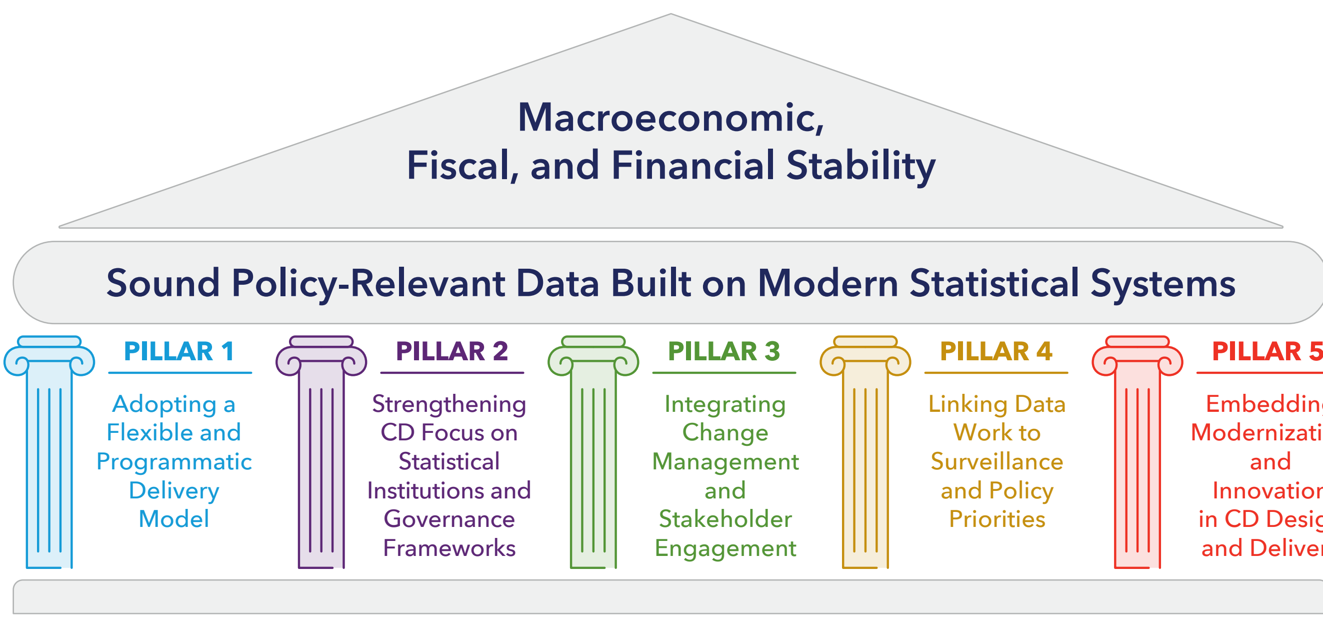
Towards a Medium-Term Statistics CD Strategy

Capacity Development (CD) is one of the *IMF's three core activities*, along with *surveillance* and *lending*, that support macroeconomic, fiscal, and financial stability around the world. The IMF's Statistics Department (STA) assists member countries in modernizing statistical systems through demand-driven and tailored CD in macroeconomic and financial statistics.

Sound data are critical for effective policymaking. Yet many countries, especially low- and lower-middle-income countries (LLMICs) and fragile and conflict-affected states (FCS), continue to face significant capacity constraints, characterized by weak interagency coordination, lack of adequate source data, barriers to data sharing, resource constraints, competing national priorities, and high staff turnover. Even where statistical capacity has improved, data are not always used effectively in policymaking, limiting the contribution of official statistics to macroeconomic management, program monitoring, and policy outcomes.

To address these challenges, STA is developing a medium-term statistics CD strategy that aims to support countries in modernizing statistical systems, by advancing ownership and leadership of statistical reforms, strengthening institutional arrangements, and promoting more effective use of data in policymaking. The strategy responds to the 2024 Review of the IMF's CD Strategy. It adopts a more flexible, integrated, and results-oriented approach to CD. The strategy will be organized *around five pillars* (Figure 1) that provide a framework for translating statistical improvements into better policy decisions and economic outcomes.

FIGURE 1. Pillars of the Statistics Capacity Development Strategy



PILLAR 1: Adopting a Flexible and Programmatic CD Delivery Model

Statistical progress requires holistic and sustained CD engagement. STA is adopting a more agile and programmatic delivery model that combines diagnostics, technical assistance, online and in-person training, and peer-to-peer learning within a coherent country-based medium-term framework. Flexible resourcing, continuous engagement, multi-topic and blended CD will help tailor support to country needs, accelerate implementation, and sustain reform momentum.

PILLAR 2: Strengthening CD Focus on Statistical Institutions and Governance Frameworks

Strong statistical systems depend on effective institutions and robust data-sharing arrangements. STA is strengthening its CD focus on supporting sound statistical ecosystems in member countries, complementing its traditional focus on core workstreams and methodologies. STA will support countries in strengthening the institutional, legal, and governance frameworks that underpin statistical production, data sharing, and coordination across various agencies. Improved access to source data will support the production of more reliable, timely, and policy-relevant statistics.

PILLAR 3: Integrating Change Management and Stakeholder Engagement

Sustainable statistical reforms require political commitment, stakeholder buy-in, and country ownership. STA will place greater emphasis on change management, stakeholder engagement, and high-level policy dialogue to ensure that statistical reforms are aligned with national priorities and sustained over time. STA will also promote greater engagement with national policymakers and regional peer learning on how data can inform policy decisions. Stronger data use reinforces ownership, accountability, and the impact of statistical work.

PILLAR 4: Linking Data Work to Surveillance and Policy Priorities

Data gaps and weak data quality constrain policy analysis and economic surveillance. STA will strengthen the integration of CD with surveillance and high-level policy dialogue to ensure that statistical improvements address the most pressing country needs. The IMF's Data Adequacy Assessment (DAA) and related diagnostic tools—including the updated Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF)[2]— help identify key data gaps, align CD priorities with policy challenges, and provide a clearer basis for assessing results. The DAA will support regional engagement plans which will inform the prioritization, design, and impact measurement of STA's CD work within the IMF Strategic Results Framework.

PILLAR 5: Embedding Modernization and Innovation in CD Design and Delivery

Statistical systems must modernize to remain relevant in an increasingly digital and data-rich world. STA will support countries in modernizing statistical production by promoting the use of new data sources, digital tools, and adopting new international statistical standards. This includes expanding the use of Big Data, geospatial information, scanner data, and other non-traditional data sources to complement traditional sources and address emerging data needs.

Artificial intelligence (AI) also offers opportunities to accelerate knowledge transfer, strengthen statistical production, and improve the efficiency of CD (Box 1). STA will continue to develop and deploy innovative tools, including AI-enabled solutions such as Talk2Manuals and StatGPT, to improve access to statistical knowledge, support data use, and enhance CD delivery. By helping countries harness technological advances while preserving statistical quality, STA will support more efficient and future-ready statistical systems.

[2] The DQAF is an IMF diagnostic framework for assessing the quality of official statistics and identifying weaknesses in statistical systems to inform CD priorities and drive statistical reforms.

BOX 1. Harnessing AI to Strengthen Statistical Capacity Development

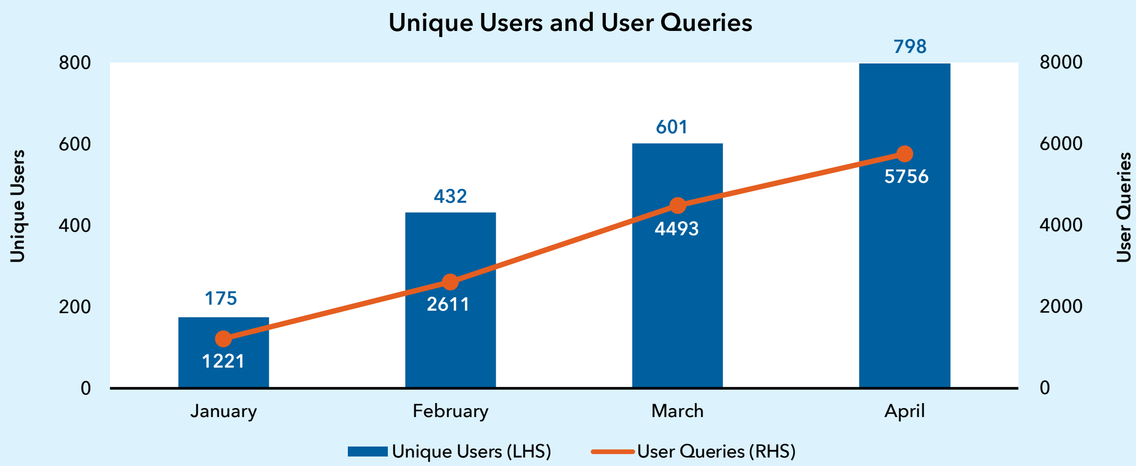
STA is leveraging artificial intelligence (AI) to strengthen CD and help countries meet growing demands for better, timelier, and more accessible data. While technical assistance and training missions remain the core of CD delivery vehicles, AI complements these approaches by making expertise, guidance, and data more readily available when and where they are needed. This extends the reach of traditional CD, helping countries apply international statistical standards more consistently and make greater use of data for decision-making.

A key focus is expanding access to statistical expertise. Talk2Manuals, launched in 2025, enables statisticians to navigate international statistical standards through natural-language queries, providing authoritative answers linked directly to official documentation. By making global standards easier to access and apply, it helps compilers implement best practices more consistently and complements traditional training and technical assistance with on-demand methodological guidance. Since its launch, usage has grown steadily, reflecting strong demand for these resources (Figure 2).

AI is also helping strengthen the use of official statistics. StatGPT, launched in 2026, provides natural-language access to official statistics from trusted national and international databases. Built on the principle that AI retrieves rather than generates statistics, it provides users with direct access to published figures, reinforcing accuracy and trust in official data. By making official statistics easier to find, understand, and use, the platform supports more evidence-based decision-making and strengthens the impact of CD.

These innovations reflect a broader effort to modernize statistical CD and prepare countries for an increasingly digital and AI-enabled environment. Beyond AI tools, the IMF is helping countries build AI-ready data ecosystems by promoting structured, well-documented, and machine-readable data, while supporting the integration of new data sources and technologies into the compilation and dissemination of official statistics.

FIGURE 2. Talk2Manuals Usage, January–April 2026



About Statistics CD

WHAT WE DO

STA is a global leader in statistical methodologies and standards, underpinning CD across our core areas of expertise: external sector, financial sector, government finance, real sector, and data dissemination standards. CD also helps countries address emerging statistical challenges arising from digitalization and financial technologies, as well as the growing demand for statistics on climate change and economic inclusion. In addition, we support countries in harnessing big data and other innovative data sources and strengthening statistical systems for an increasingly data-rich and AI-enabled environment.

HOW WE SUPPORT COUNTRIES

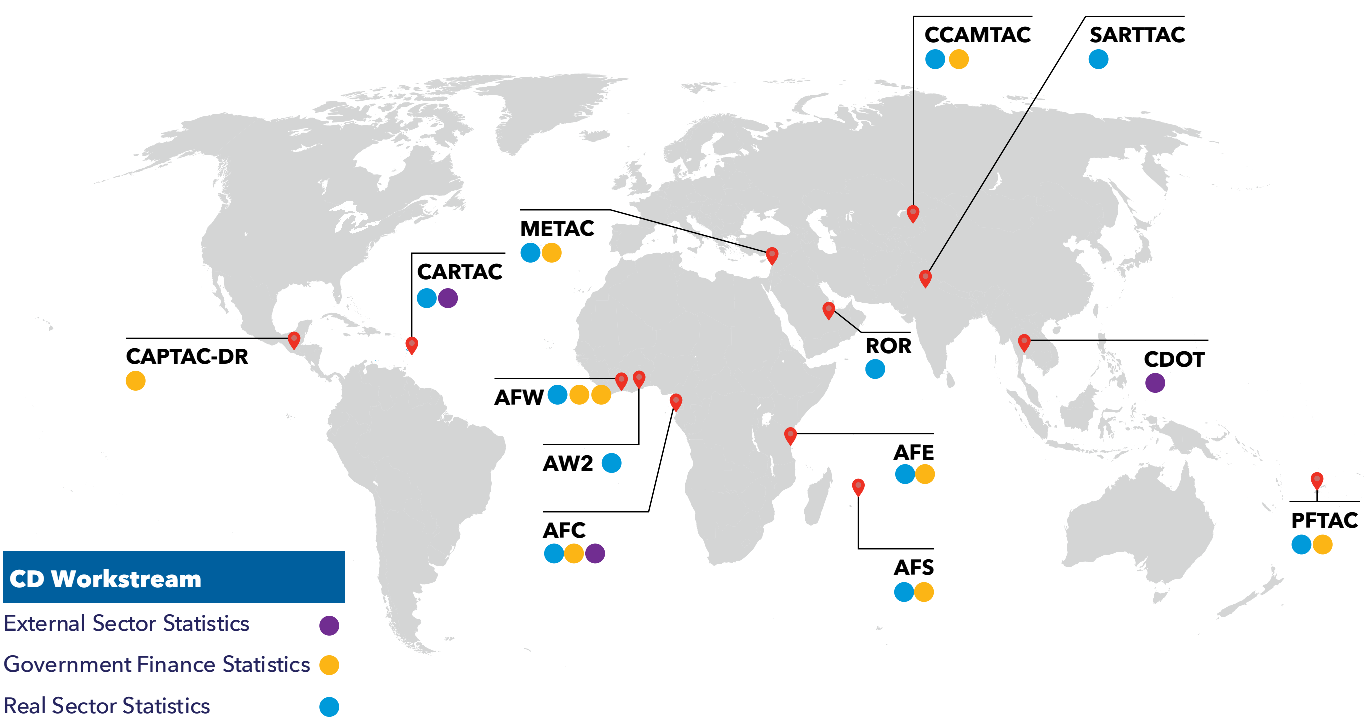
CD is delivered through a combination of technical assistance, training, and peer learning by HQ-based statistical experts, long-term resident advisors stationed in the IMF's Regional Capacity Development Centers (RCDCs), and experienced short-term experts recruited globally.

Together, they provide a global network that combines international expertise with on-the-ground presence and close engagement with country authorities:

- 100+ HQ-based statistical experts
- 23 resident advisors in RCDCs (Figure 3)
- A pool of 230+ experts available for short-term assignments

This enables STA to respond flexibly to evolving needs and tailor support to country circumstances and regional priorities. Support is delivered through in-person, virtual, and blended modalities, enabling sustained engagement with country authorities. This helps countries implement technical recommendations and strengthen the production and dissemination of official statistics. Online learning courses further complement these efforts by expanding access to statistical CD and supporting continuous skills development (Box 2).

FIGURE 3. On-the-ground presence and workstreams supported by STA resident advisors in RCDCs



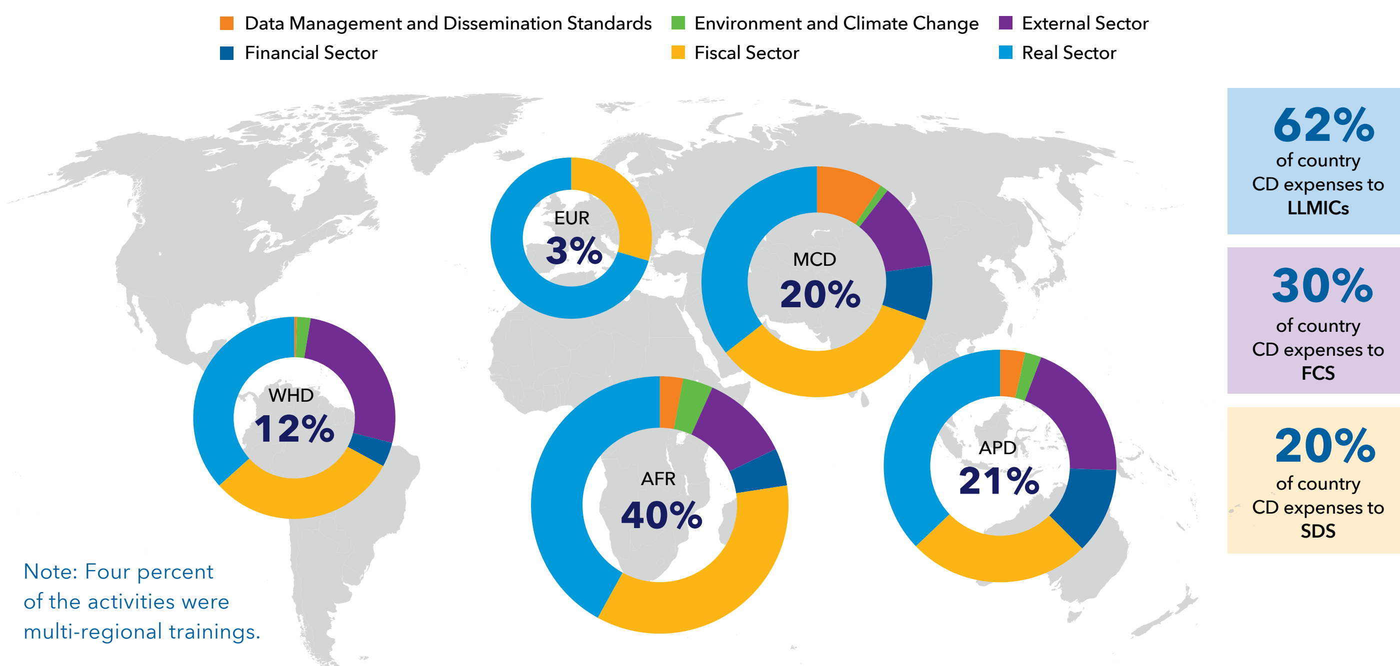
FY2026 CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

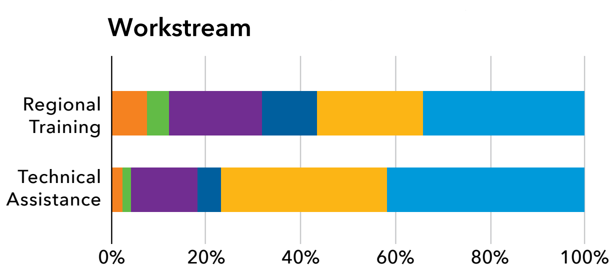
Statistics CD accounted for 11 percent of the Fund's CD investment in FY2026 (May 2025–April 2026), benefitting 150 countries and corresponding to US$33.6 million in spending. Support was provided across all regions, with Africa receiving the largest share of resources, followed by Asia and the Pacific and the Middle East and Central Asia (Figure 4). The regional distribution reflects both country demand and the IMF's commitment to supporting members with the greatest CD needs.

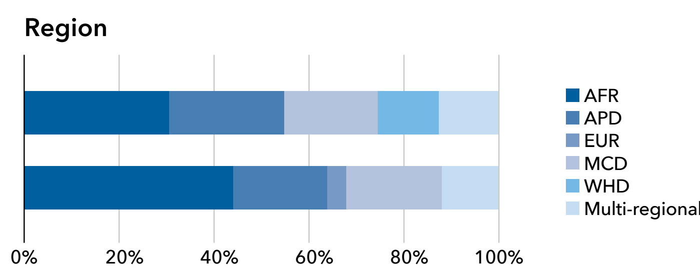
A significant share of resources continued to be directed toward countries with the greatest capacity constraints. FCS received 30 percent of technical assistance resources. More broadly, 62 percent of resources supported LLMICs, while 20 percent supported small developing states (SDS). The RCDCs play a critical role in this effort, with resident advisors currently supporting capacity building in almost 90 percent of the FCS.

Demand remained concentrated in real sector and fiscal statistics, which together accounted for 70 percent of resources, reflecting countries' continued focus on strengthening national accounts, price statistics, and government finance and debt statistics. Country-based technical assistance represented the largest delivery modality, accounting for 68 percent of delivery, while training accounted for 32 percent (Figure 5).

FIGURE 4. Distribution of CD Spending by Region,[3] FY2026

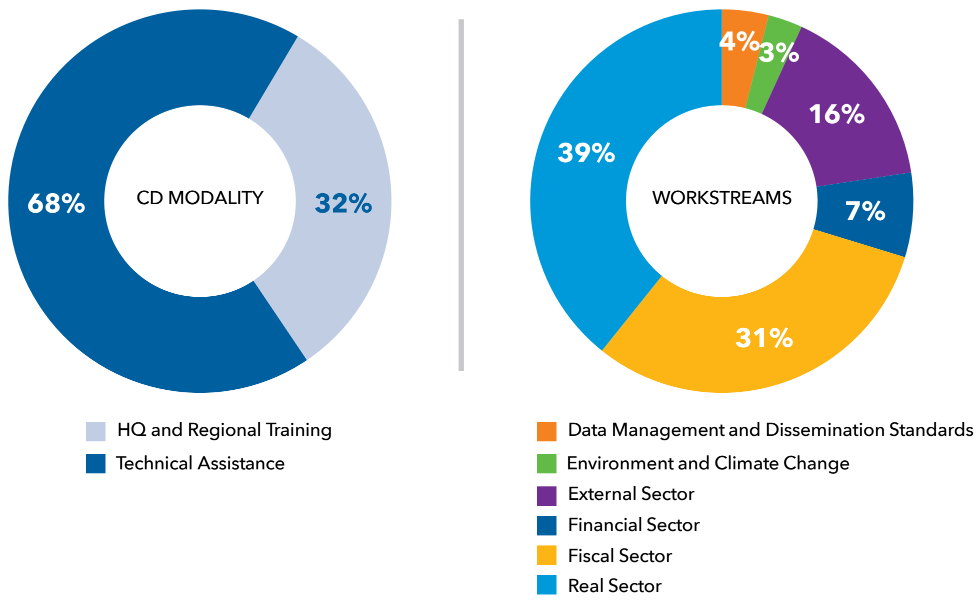






[3] The distribution shows the allocation of spending on technical assistance and training.

FIGURE 5. Distribution of CD Spending by Modality and Workstream, FY2026

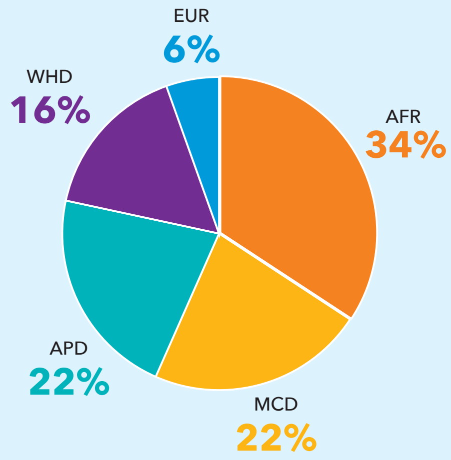


BOX 2. Statistics Training Program

The IMF's statistics training program is a core component of STA's CD efforts, helping member countries strengthen the skills needed to compile and disseminate official statistics. STA delivers statistics training through a mix of in-person, virtual, and online modalities, offered through the IMF Institute for Capacity Development, RCDCs, and partnerships with other international and regional organizations

In FY2026, we delivered 96 courses and workshops to more than 3,500 participants worldwide. Africa accounted for the largest share of participants, followed by the Middle East and Central Asia and Asia and the Pacific (Figure 6). Women represented 43 percent of participants, while 17 percent were from fragile and conflict-affected states, underscoring the IMF's continued commitment to supporting countries facing the greatest statistical capacity challenges.

FIGURE 6. Training Participants, FY2026

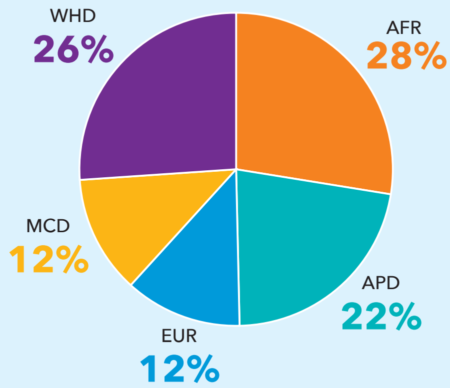


ONLINE LEARNING PROGRAM

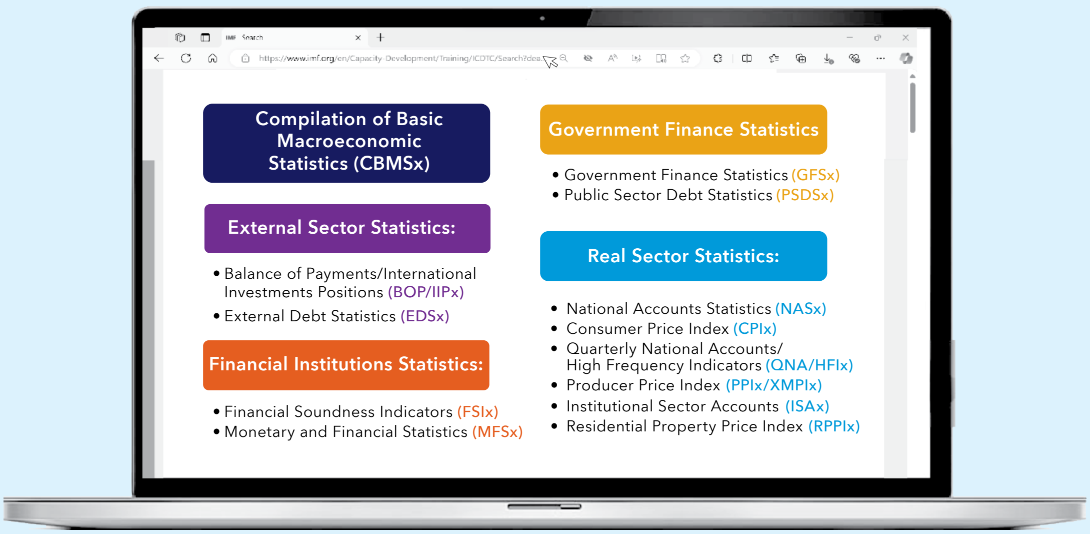
STA's free online learning program, launched in 2014, now offers 13 macroeconomic statistics courses across all workstreams in four languages—English, French, Spanish, and, most recently, Arabic (Figure 7). Over the past five years, more than 21,000 participants worldwide have completed one or more courses, with over 80 percent from LLMICs and around one in six from FCS. These results highlight the value of online learning as a scalable complement to traditional CD delivery, particularly in capacity-constrained environments. Work is underway to expand language coverage and update course content to reflect evolving statistical standards.

FIGURE 7. Online Learning Participants and Courses

Online Learning Participants (FY2020-2026)



Online Learning Courses Catalog



Launch of Monetary Financial Statistics (MFSx) course in Arabic

Statistics CD Partners

The financial contributions of the IMF's development partners, including through support for RCDCs, are critical to the delivery of Statistics CD. They strengthen the IMF's ability to provide high-quality technical assistance and training, respond to emerging policy-relevant data needs, and adapt support to evolving member priorities in areas such as environment and climate change statistics (Box 3), digitalization, and big data. These partnerships also promote country ownership and accountability while reinforcing a stronger focus on results.

In FY2026, development partners financed close to three-quarters of Statistics CD delivery, including support from new partners such as the Gates Foundation. RCDCs accounted for 63 percent of partner-funded CD, with the remainder financed through multi-partner trust funds and bilateral partnerships. Among non-RCDC funding vehicles, the Data for Decisions Fund (D4D) accounted for nearly half of the share, making it the largest contributor. Japan-funded bilateral projects were the second-largest contributor, accounting for almost one-quarter of the share, followed by the Financial Sector Stability Fund (Figure 8). Further information on the D4D Fund and the partnership with Japan is provided in the accompanying brochures.

"The Bank of Ghana expresses its sincere appreciation to the D4D for its sustained, high-impact support in strengthening our capacity to compile Ghana's Balance of Payments statistics. Since 2024, D4D has been an invaluable partner, driving measurable improvements in the quality, coverage, and international comparability of our external sector data."

Research Department
Bank of Ghana

FIGURE 8. Statistics CD Spending: Role of Development Partners (Percentage of USD, FY2026)

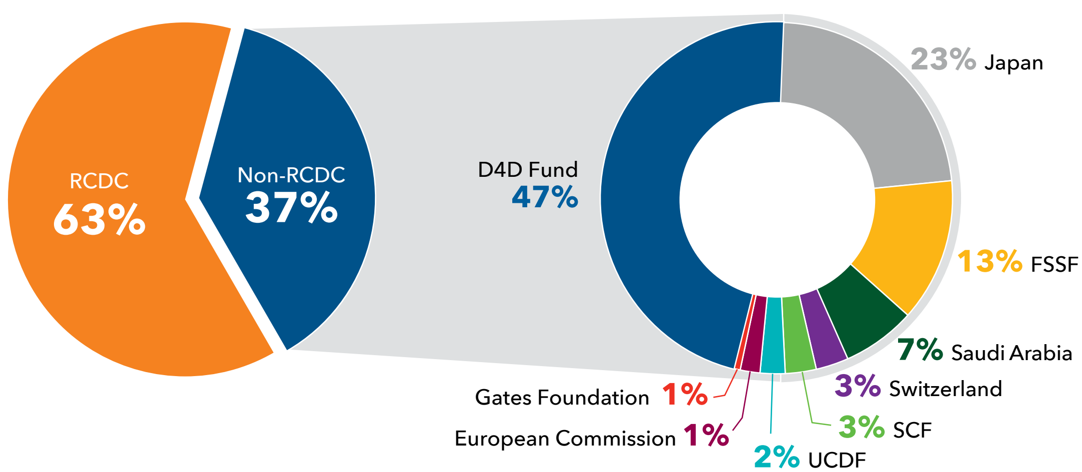


Table 1. Bilateral Donors

European Commission	(1) Sweden: Development of Analytical and Statistical Tools to Estimate the Shadow Economy (2) Poland: Improve the Capacity of Poland to Better Assess and Counteract the Grey Economy
Gates Foundation	Support to the Financial Access Survey
Japan	(1) Improving External Sector Statistics in the Asia-Pacific Region (2) Improving Data Dissemination Globally (3) Strengthening the Quality of PSDS in Africa and Asia-Pacific Region (4) Strengthening Macroeconomic and Financial Statistics Compilation and Dissemination in the Asia-Pacific Region: GFS and PSDS
Saudi Arabia	Real Sector Statistics CD Program
Switzerland	Environment and Climate Change Statistics CD Program

Table 2. Thematic Trust Fund Donors

Data for Decisions (D4D) Fund	China, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Saudi Arabia, and Switzerland
Financial Sector Stability Fund (FSSF)	China, Germany, Korea, Luxembourg, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland
Somalia Country Fund (SCF)	Canada, European Commission, Italy, Sweden, Saudi Arabia, and United Kingdom
Ukraine Capacity Development Fund (UCDF)	Canada, European Commission, Finland, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands, Poland, Slovak Republic, and Switzerland

IMF Data for Decisions Fund Annual Steering Committee Meeting June 22, 2026, Paris, France

BOX 3. Building Data Foundations for Climate-Informed Policymaking

As climate change becomes increasingly macro-critical—affecting macroeconomic, financial, and fiscal systems—policymakers need reliable and internationally comparable data to understand vulnerabilities, monitor the transition to a low-carbon economy, and design effective policy responses. Yet in many countries, climate and environment information remain fragmented, incomplete, or disconnected from the core statistical systems used for economic decision-making. These gaps make it difficult to assess climate risks systematically and to incorporate climate considerations into macroeconomic analysis, surveillance, and resilience planning. To help address these challenges, the IMF launched the Environment and Climate Change Statistics (ECCS) Pilot Program in 2023 with support from the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO).

The CD program supports countries in developing macro-relevant climate statistics aligned with international standards and integrated into national statistical systems. Through diagnostic assessments, technical assistance, training, and sustained engagement, the program helps countries strengthen the production and use of energy accounts, air-emissions accounts, carbon-footprint measures, and physical risk indicators. It covered ten countries—Algeria (subsequently replaced by Tunisia), Bangladesh, Colombia, Egypt, Ghana, Indonesia, Mozambique, Peru, South Africa, and Vietnam.

The CD program has delivered tangible results. Statistics South Africa released Physical Energy Flow Accounts for 2015–21, Peru disseminated experimental energy and air-emissions accounts, Bangladesh compiled draft energy and air-emissions accounts, and Colombia developed energy asset accounts and carbon-footprint estimates. Beyond country-level outputs, the IMF developed the GeoPulse platform to support the analysis and visualization of physical climate risks—covering impacts of droughts, floods, typhoons, and cyclones on people, produced assets, and GDP—while also enabling near-real-time event tracking. These advances are strengthening countries' capacity to measure emissions, monitor the energy transition and climate risks, and support evidence-based resilience-building and climate policymaking. The experience has also shown synergies with IMF surveillance, analytical work, and Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF) operations.

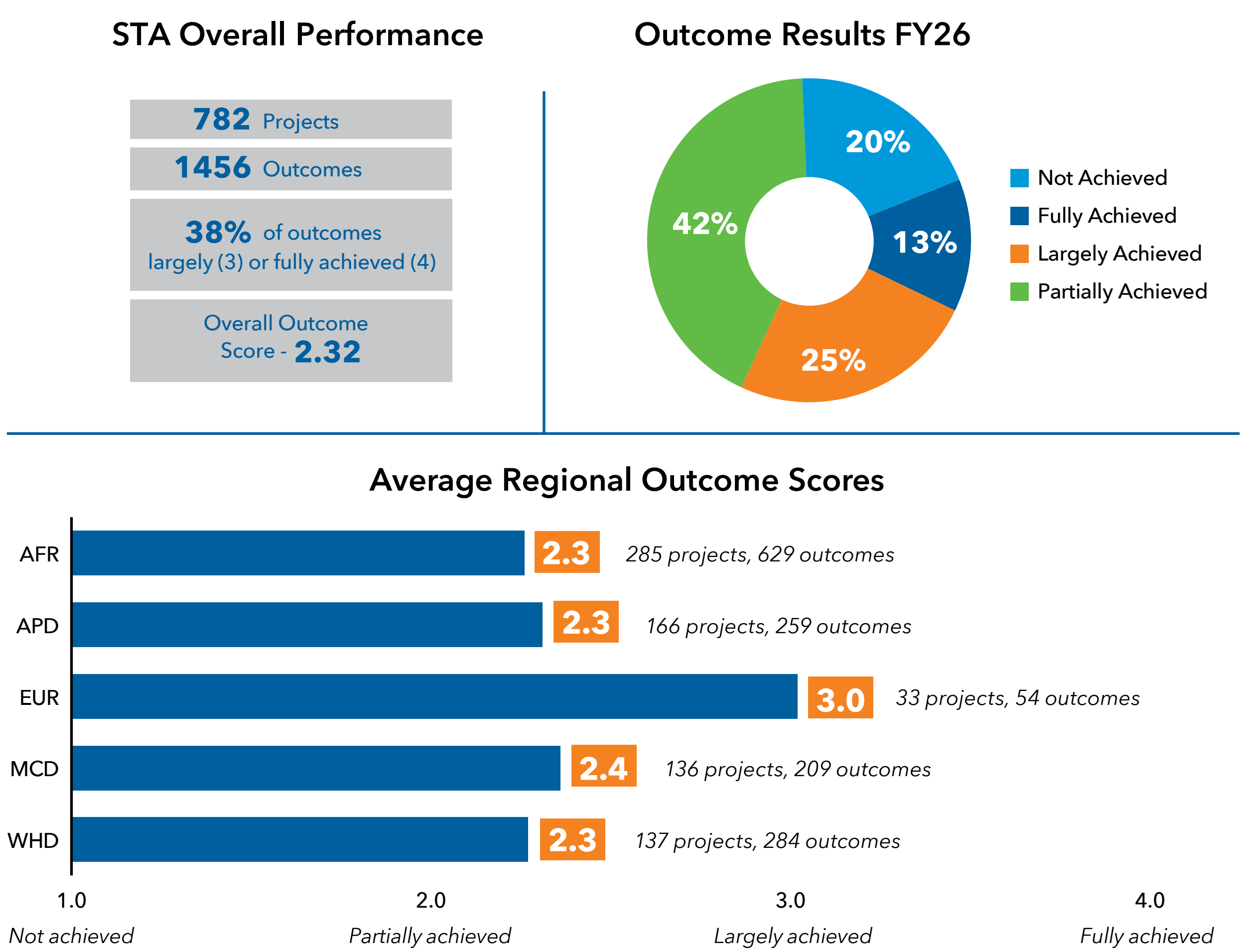
The pilot program's achievements have been recognized through an independent evaluation, which rated implementation as "largely achieved" and identified STA's continuous-engagement model as an innovative and effective approach to CD. As the pilot approaches completion (October 2026), lessons from the program are informing the next phase of IMF climate statistics work under the D4D Fund, with a focus on embedding climate statistics into routine statistical and policymaking processes.

CD Impact and Results

The IMF uses a results-based management framework (RBM) to plan, monitor, and report on CD results. Under this approach, CD projects are linked to agreed outcomes that reflect expected institutional or statistical improvements, with progress assessed annually using a standardized 1-4 rating scale. These outcome ratings provide a structured basis for tracking implementation and identifying areas requiring further support.

In FY2026, STA's CD portfolio showed broad implementation progress. Across 782 projects with 1,456 outcomes, the overall average outcome score was 2.32, placing performance between partially achieved and largely achieved (Figure 9). The average score reflects outcomes from projects at different stages of implementation, with 31 percent of projects having begun within the past two years. Most outcomes were rated partially achieved (42 percent), while 38 percent were rated largely achieved or fully achieved, indicating that a substantial share of the portfolio is advancing toward intended results. Meanwhile, 20 percent of outcomes were rated not achieved, reflecting staff capacity and institutional constraints in some recipient institutions, changes in authorities' priorities during project implementation, and the early stage of implementation of some projects.

FIGURE 9. Statistics CD Outcomes Performance, FY2026



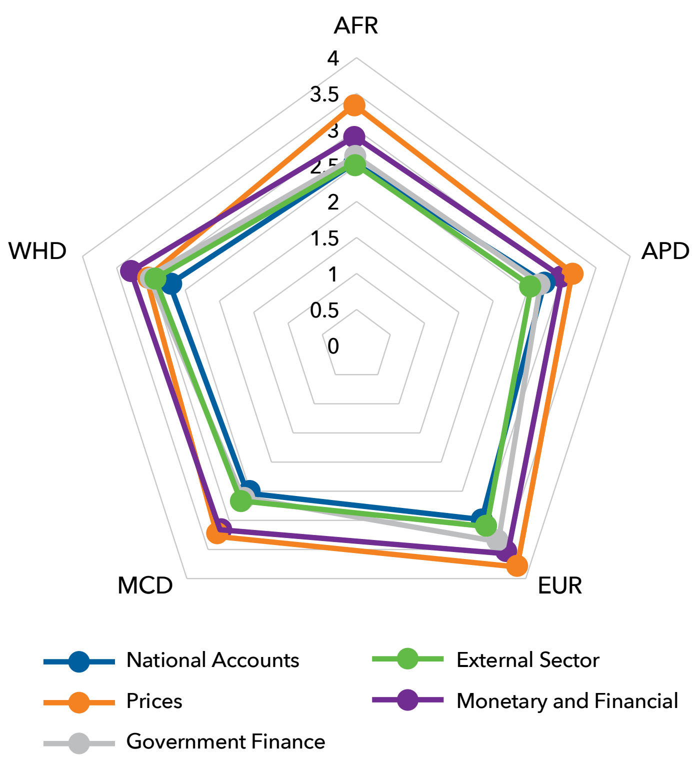
Regional outcome performance was relatively clustered, with most regions recording average scores between 2.3 and 2.4. EUR recorded the highest average score at 3.0 from a smaller portfolio of 33 projects with 54 outcomes (4 percent of the total projects). MCD followed at 2.4, while APD, WHD, and AFR each averaged 2.3. AFR represented the largest delivery footprint, with 285 projects and 629 outcomes (43 percent of the total), highlighting the scale and importance of CD support to the region.

INTEGRATING CD AND SURVEILLANCE

The Data Adequacy Assessment (DAA) provides an important bridge between the IMF's CD (statistics) and surveillance mandates. It assesses whether countries' macroeconomic statistics are adequate to support policy analysis and macroeconomic surveillance. While the DAA is not a direct measure of CD performance, it offers a structured basis for identifying data gaps and informing CD priorities. Successive assessments strengthen the ability to track improvements in data adequacy and provide insight into progress in statistical capacity over time.

The latest DAA results for CD recipient countries indicate that macroeconomic statistics are broadly adequate for surveillance[4] across most regions and statistical domains. EUR records relatively high scores across workstreams, reflecting the generally advanced state of statistical systems in the region. AFR, APD, MCD, and WHD also perform relatively well in prices and monetary and financial statistics (Figure 10). Differences in scores across regions and statistical domains help identify priority areas where further CD support can enhance the quality, coverage, and timeliness of macroeconomic statistics. STA continues to strengthen statistical systems in countries where needs are greatest, particularly in LLMICs and FCS, in close collaboration with the RCDCs and IMF Area Departments.

FIGURE 10. DAA Scores across STA workstreams and regions



[4] The DAA uses a four-point scale: 1 = data provided to the Fund have serious shortcomings that significantly hamper surveillance; 2 = data provided to the Fund have shortcomings that hamper surveillance; 3 = data provided to the Fund have some shortcomings but are broadly adequate for surveillance; and 4 = data provided to the Fund are adequate for surveillance.

IMPACT STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Building strong statistical systems is at the core of the IMF CD efforts. The success stories that follow illustrate how sustained engagement helps countries across all geographical regions strengthen statistical capacity, close critical data gaps, and align with international statistical standards.[5]

- Angola
- Colombia
- Democratic Republic ofCongo
- Djibouti
- The Gambia
- Ghana
- India
- Jamaica
- Kenya
- Liberia
- Mauritius
- Papua New Guinea
- Poland
- Rwanda
- Somalia
- South Africa
- Syria
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- Uzbekistan
- WAEMU

[5] The logos of thematic funds/RCDCs or flags of bilateral country donors are displayed on select country stories to recognize the funding partners whose financial contributions supported the featured activities.

Integrating Big Data into Official Statistics

Advanced analytics and non-traditional data sources enhance countries' ability to monitor economic conditions in near real time, detect emerging risks earlier, and respond more effectively to shocks.

Building Global Capacity. In FY2026, The IMF's Big Data Center (BDC) delivered hands-on training across Africa, Europe, China, and the Middle East, helping countries move from awareness of big data opportunities toward practical application and institutional adoption. The regional training program began at the African Training Institute and advanced at the Joint Vienna Institute, where participants used a design-thinking approach to develop end-to-end prototypes (capstone projects) using satellite imagery and Automatic Identification System (AIS) ship-tracking data to tackle real macroeconomic policy questions. The approach was subsequently adapted for delivery at the IMF China Capacity Development Center, the first delivery of the course in China, where participants combined hands-on applications with peer learning to build capacity for integrating big data with traditional statistical systems. A high-level workshop in Riyadh complemented these technical activities by engaging senior policymakers on strategic adoption of big data, with emphasis on governance, institutional readiness, and the role of data ecosystems in enabling the transformation of official statistics.

Through this regional training and complementary in-country technical assistance, countries have begun applying big data tools to address concrete statistical and policy challenges. The experiences of Somalia and Uganda demonstrate this transition from experimentation to operational use of big data in official statistics.

SOMALIA: Advancing Somalia's Official Statistics through Data Science and AI

Somalia is harnessing data science and AI-enabled tools to bridge critical data gaps and strengthen the production of official statistics. With IMF support, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) has strengthened the production of trade statistics through the use of customs data and AI-enabled tools, improving the timeliness and consistency of key macroeconomic data. The NBS developed a reproducible end-to-end workflow for processing customs records and introduced a dashboard to support data quality assurance and analytical review. These improvements enable more efficient and reliable statistical production in a data-constrained environment.

UGANDA: Transforming Economic Monitoring through Data and Innovation

Uganda has advanced the development of a GDP nowcasting framework that integrates traditional economic indicators with non-traditional sources, including satellite-based and other digital data, to provide earlier signals of economic activity. The framework supports more timely estimates of economic activity and policy calibration, addressing longstanding challenges related to data lags and limited high-frequency indicators. With IMF support, the Bank of Uganda (BOU) developed an end-to-end data pipeline to extract, process, and integrate high-frequency data into the nowcasting framework. The engagement also provided recommendations on the use of machine learning techniques to improve the classification and processing of large-scale financial transactions data. These advances are strengthening the BOU's capacity to monitor economic conditions in near real time and respond more effectively to emerging developments.

"BDC staff provided substantive and ongoing technical assistance to the Bank of Uganda in the development of our high frequency nowcasting models and the corresponding tool pack. Their strong analytical grounding and methodological clarity have enabled our staff to progressively internalize advanced modelling techniques and data integration methods. Their continued support is playing an instrumental role in building a sustainable nowcasting capability within the Bank, including guiding the development of models using tourism data from the google earth engine."

MILLY NALUKWAGO ISINGOMA
Director of Statistics, Bank of Uganda

Strengthening Data Dissemination through National Summary Data Pages

Timely and accessible macroeconomic statistics are essential for effective surveillance, policy design, and public accountability. National Summary Data Pages (NSDPs) provide a public gateway to official macroeconomic statistics.

MAURITIUS: Africa's First SDDS Plus Adherent

JapanGov
The Government of Japan

Mauritius is a highly open economy with strong links to global trade and financial markets through tourism, financial services, and its role as an international financial center. Elevated public debt, external imbalances, and exposure to external shocks highlighted the need for timely, comprehensive, and high-quality macroeconomic and financial data. Although Mauritius had subscribed to the IMF's Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) since 2012, further efforts were needed to meet the more demanding requirements of the SDDS Plus.

Building on the authorities' commitment to data transparency and the continued development of the statistical system, the IMF provided targeted technical assistance to support adherence to the SDDS Plus. Working closely with the Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Finance, Statistics Mauritius, and the Bank of Mauritius, the IMF supported efforts to compile and disseminate key SDDS Plus data categories (e.g., the Financial Corporations Survey, Sectoral Balance Sheets, General Government Operations, General Government Gross Debt, and Financial Soundness Indicators). The assistance focused on strengthening the independence of the statistical system and interagency coordination, addressing remaining data gaps, modernizing the National Summary Data Page (NSDP), and aligning dissemination practices with SDDS Plus requirements. Engagement with senior officials helped secure high-level ownership and facilitate the timely completion of the adherence process.

In March 2026, Mauritius became the first African country—and the 32nd worldwide—to adhere to the SDDS Plus, the highest tier of the IMF's Data Standards Initiatives. This achievement strengthened data transparency and aligned dissemination practices with the highest international standards. By expanding the availability of key macroeconomic and financial indicators through its NSDP, Mauritius enhanced the information base for policy analysis, financial stability monitoring, and investor decision-making. The experience underscores the importance of sustained political commitment, strong inter-agency coordination, and targeted IMF support in achieving tangible improvements in data transparency.

"Today's achievement is a testament to Mauritius's commitment to maintaining the highest level of data transparency by disseminating the broadest set of macroeconomic and financial data."

"I would like to reiterate that our adherence will, inter alia, reinforce credibility as a transparent international financial center, strengthen financial stability oversight, enhance investor confidence, and support long-term economic resilience."

STATEMENT BY DR. HON. PRIME MINISTER NAVIN RAMGOOLAM
on Mauritius's adherence to the SDDS Plus, National Assembly, March 17, 2026

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DJIBOUTI AND THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO:
Advancing Data Dissemination Reforms

In 2025, Djibouti and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) strengthened data dissemination through the launch of National Summary Data Pages (NSDPs) under the IMF's Enhanced General Data Dissemination System (e-GDDS). Both initiatives were supported by Japan-funded IMF technical assistance delivered in collaboration with the African Development Bank. The reforms were undertaken to address longstanding data gaps and strengthen the availability of macroeconomic data needed for surveillance and macroeconomic management.

In **Djibouti**, IMF engagement with senior policymakers helped secure broad ownership of the reform process and supported the launch of an NSDP disseminating 11 recommended and five encouraged e-GDDS data categories. As a public, one-stop data portal, the NSDP improves access to key macroeconomic indicators and promotes greater data transparency. The initiative also supports ongoing efforts to improve the timeliness and frequency of key data categories, including the development of quarterly national accounts. As Djibouti works to strengthen debt sustainability and policy frameworks, enhanced data transparency remains important for surveillance, policy design, and creditor engagement.

In the **DRC**, the reform process brought together the Ministry of Finance, the National Institute of Statistics, and the Central Bank of the Congo to review datasets, clarify institutional responsibilities, and support the operational launch of the NSDP. Implementation of the e-GDDS was incorporated into the authorities' reform commitments under the IMF-supported program, helping reinforce broader efforts to strengthen governance and transparency. The launch made the DRC the 76th country globally to implement the e-GDDS framework, marking an important step toward strengthening the national statistical system.

The launch of NSDPs in both countries strengthened coordination among data-producing agencies and expanded public access to key macroeconomic data. Beyond the launch of new dissemination platforms, the reforms strengthened the foundation for improvements in data quality, coverage, and timeliness, including progress toward more frequent dissemination of key macroeconomic statistics.

Enhancing Environment and Climate Change Statistics

Macro-critical climate and environment indicators enable countries to track exposure to climate-related risks, monitor progress on the energy transition, and inform decisions on investment, public finances, and the management of natural capital.

SOUTH AFRICA: Advancing Climate-Relevant Statistics for Monitoring the Energy Transition

SWITZERLAND

As a G20 economy facing high carbon intensity and significant energy transition challenges, South Africa needs robust environment statistics to underpin evidence-based policymaking. A diagnostic mission funded by the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) identified the development of energy accounts as a priority, as energy accounts had not been updated since 2017 due to resource constraints and existing data gaps limited South Africa's ability to monitor the energy transition.

Building on these findings, the IMF supported Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) to compile energy accounts in line with the System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA). The work strengthened institutional capacity, enhanced interagency collaboration, and established a comprehensive framework linking energy data with national accounts. The resulting energy accounts provide a detailed mapping of energy flows—from extraction and transformation to final consumption—enabling the derivation of indicators on energy use, efficiency, and productivity.

A major milestone was reached in March 2025 with the release of energy accounts for 2015–2021, followed by an update covering 2022 in November 2025. The new statistics highlight structural features such as the dominance of coal and reliance on imported oil products, insights central to understanding energy security and transition pathways. Uptake has extended beyond the statistical community, with national media drawing on the data to inform public debate. By enabling the regular production and dissemination of high-quality energy accounts, the engagement has strengthened the evidence base for monitoring the energy transition and supporting international reporting commitments. Building on this foundation, Stats SA is now advancing work on air emissions accounts, further strengthening the evidence base for climate and energy transition policies.

COLOMBIA: Authorities' Reflection on Strengthening Environment and Climate Statistics.

The National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) sincerely appreciates the continued technical assistance provided by the IMF Statistics Department through the SECO-funded program. This collaboration has significantly strengthened our capacity to align key macroeconomic, environment, and climate statistics with international standards, while also supporting the development of policy-relevant tools such as Environmentally Extended Input-Output Tables (EE-IOT), Carbon Footprints, and the monetary valuation of mineral and energy resource assets.

The IMF's support has been particularly valuable in advancing the methodological approach for valuing mineral and energy resource assets, helping us address key conceptual and technical challenges and supporting the development of Colombia's first monetary estimates of these assets within the framework of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting.

Overall, this collaboration has played a key role in strengthening the production of integrated, consistent, and high-quality data that support evidence-based climate and environmental policymaking.

PIEDAD URDINOLA CONTRERAS
General Director, DANE

Monitoring External Sector Risks and Shocks

Stronger external sector statistics enhance countries' ability to monitor external vulnerability, assess economic developments, and support informed policy decisions.

GHANA: Strengthening External Sector Statistics: From Crisis Response to BPM6 Transformation

Ghana's suspension of external debt payments in December 2022 brought renewed attention to the quality of its external sector statistics (ESS)—the data that capture a country's external trade, and cross-border financial flows. Long-standing methodological weaknesses limited the timely monitoring of external financing pressures and constrained the precision of external sector analysis at a time when reliable data were essential for shaping macroeconomic decisions.

To address these weaknesses, the IMF supported the Bank of Ghana (BOG), under the D4D Fund, to modernize its statistical framework. The work supported the transition of compilation methodologies from BPM5 to the sixth edition of the Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM6). Goods exports were adjusted to capture only a true change of economic ownership between residents and nonresidents. Services previously embedded in goods were reclassified into the services account. New estimation methods were introduced for several balance of payments components, including cross-border financial intermediation services indirectly measured (FISIM) and reinvested earnings. A BPM5-to-BPM6 mapping framework was also developed to ensure transparency during the transition.

By mid-2025, the BOG began officially reporting its balance of payments on a BPM6 basis, a significant milestone in statistical modernization. The outcome has been a more coherent, transparent, and analytically reliable external sector dataset, enabling better monitoring of Ghana's external position and supporting more informed macroeconomic assessment. The benefits extended beyond technical agencies. The updated dataset is increasingly referenced by researchers, analysts, and the media, reflecting growing confidence in the quality and credibility of Ghana's external sector statistics.

LIBERIA: Modernizing External Sector Statistics through Automation and Data Science

Liberia's balance of payments statistics (BOP) were affected by large errors and omissions—the gap that arises when recorded cross-border transactions do not fully balance, signaling missing or misclassified flows. Compilation practices that relied heavily on manual processing and fragmented data sources reduced data reliability and analytical usefulness at a time when accurate BOP were essential for surveillance and policymaking.

To modernize these processes, the IMF supported the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) to enhance the compilation, quality, and analytical value of the country's external accounts. The work combined methodological improvements with the development of two automated tools for compiling BOP and international investment position (IIP) statistics for 2020–2024. The first tool automated the processing of international investment survey data, with a validation tool to detect inconsistencies in the reported data. Once validated, it generates complete quarterly time series for BOP and IIP statistics, including valuation changes and other flows required for the integrated BOP–IIP framework. It also disaggregates annual survey data into quarterly estimates, enabling more efficient data collection arrangements. The second tool modernized the classification of commercial bank transactions used in compiling BOP through pattern-recognition techniques, improving both the speed and accuracy of the process.

The outcome was measurable. The CBL submitted revised external sector data for 2020–2023 and new data for 2024 to the IMF in September 2025. The revisions led to a substantial improvement in data quality, with cumulative errors and omissions reduced from –US$2.7 billion to –US$0.4 billion, effectively removing a long-standing negative bias in the external accounts. The improved statistics are used by the authorities and support macroeconomic surveillance and analytical work. Beyond data improvements, the engagement strengthened institutional capacity, with CBL adopting modern tools for statistical compilation and data production.

"The IMF technical assistance provided to the CBL has been transformative for the compilation of Liberia's external sector statistics. By combining methodological guidance with innovative Python-based automation tools, the Mission significantly improved data quality, reduced long-standing errors and omissions, and strengthened the reliability of BOP and IIP statistics. Beyond the immediate statistical gains, the initiative enhanced staff capacity in modern data science techniques and established a sustainable foundation for more efficient, timely, and credible external sector statistics that better support economic surveillance and policymaking."

BLAMAH J. GOLL
Assistant Director for Monetary Policy,
Central Bank of Liberia

PAPUA NEW GUINEA: Building the Foundation for Evidence-Based Policymaking

CDOT

Papua New Guinea, a commodity-exporting economy implementing reforms under IMF-supported programs,[6] has faced significant macroeconomic imbalances and persistent balance of payments risks. A key constraint has been the lack of comprehensive and timely external sector statistics, particularly the absence of a structured framework for compiling IIP, together with gaps in key BOP components. These gaps limited the authorities' ability to monitor cross-border financial linkages.

In response, the IMF, through the Capacity Development Office in Thailand (CDOT), supported the Bank of Papua New Guinea (BPNG) in launching its first systematic effort to compile IIP statistics. BPNG faced challenges common in developing and fragile settings, including confidentiality constraints in extractive industries, weak interagency coordination, limited private sector cooperation, and capacity gaps across public institutions. The IMF engagement combined targeted training with sustained technical assistance while engaging key stakeholders on the importance of ESS. By building trust between BPNG and other government agencies, it helped promote data sharing, underpinned by BPNG's commitment to protecting sensitive information.

These efforts produced Papua New Guinea's first complete IIP dataset for 2022, alongside preliminary datasets for 2023 and 2024. Building on this strengthened capacity, the authorities have agreed to improve the compilation of international trade in goods as a structural benchmark under the current IMF-supported programs. Together, these improvements are helping Papua New Guinea strengthen the statistical foundation needed to monitor cross-border financial linkages and inform economic policy decisions.

[6] Papua New Guinea is currently supported by three IMF arrangements—the Extended Fund Facility (EFF), the ECF, and the Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF). The latest reviews under these arrangements were completed in June 2026.

Advancing Monetary and Financial Statistics

Monetary and financial statistics help countries develop and implement monetary policy, identify risks to the financial sector, understand financial interconnectedness, and strengthen macroeconomic and financial stability.

THE GAMBIA: Reconciling Monetary and Fiscal Data for Stronger Program Monitoring

FSSF

A discrepancy of about 2 percent of GDP between monetary and fiscal data was identified during the fourth review of The Gambia's IMF-supported Extended Credit Facility (ECF) arrangement in December 2025. Addressing this discrepancy became a structural benchmark under the ECF arrangement, requiring the authorities to identify, quantify, and resolve its underlying causes.

To support the authorities' efforts, and with funding from the FSSF, the IMF delivered technical assistance on monetary and financial statistics to the Central Bank of The Gambia in April 2026. Working closely with national counterparts, the mission identified and quantified the sources of the inconsistencies across the datasets. It also developed a time-bound roadmap with clear recommendations, timelines, and institutional responsibilities to guide their resolution and prevent recurrence.

Implementation of the agreed actions positions the authorities to meet the structural benchmark, facilitating progress under the IMF-supported program. More broadly, the exercise strengthened the foundation for improved consistency and reliability of macroeconomic statistics, supporting more effective program monitoring and policy formulation.

FINANCIAL ACCESS SURVEY: Expanding Mobile Money Reporting to Support Financial Inclusion Policy

Mobile money has become an increasingly important channel for access, payments, and digital financial inclusion, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa and parts of Asia. In Sub-Saharan Africa, registered mobile money accounts rose from about 186 per 100 adults in 2020 to 248 in 2024, more than twice the number of regular bank deposit accounts in the region. Country-level Financial Access Survey (FAS) data also show rapid growth in usage, with mobile money transactions per adult increasing sharply between 2020 and 2024 in countries such as Benin, Ghana, Rwanda, Senegal, and Zambia. Despite this growth, country reporting on mobile money remained incomplete in many economies, limiting policymakers' and regulators' ability to track the expansion of digital financial services, identify access gaps, and assess implications for financial inclusion and payments policies.

To strengthen the availability and comparability of mobile money data, the IMF continued sustained engagement with reporting economies through direct outreach, support from the FAS Advisory Group, and pilot exercises to test expanded reporting and identify practical data compilation challenges. This work, financed by the D4D Fund, formed part of broader efforts to improve FAS coverage, quality, reporting, and usage for financial inclusion policymaking.

By October 2025, the number of economies reporting mobile money data reached 86. Sub-Saharan Africa remained the strongest reporting region, with 41 of 44 reporting economies providing mobile money data. Each additional reporter improves the usefulness of the FAS for cross-country comparison and regional benchmarking, strengthening the evidence base for monitoring digital financial services, financial inclusion, payments, and related risks. The expansion of mobile money reporting shows how sustained technical engagement can improve data availability even where national statistical capacity remains constrained.

SOMALIA: Rebuilding Statistical Programs in Somalia

Following more than two decades of conflict, Somalia suffered a substantial loss of institutional and technical capacity. Through sustained technical assistance missions and targeted training, the IMF has supported the authorities in rebuilding the statistical framework required to produce macroeconomic and financial statistics.

With support from the Somalia Country Fund, monetary and financial statistics (MFS) covering the central bank and other depository corporations, as well as Financial Soundness Indicators (FSIs), are now regularly compiled. This work is complemented by assistance under the FSSF to expand coverage to nonbank financial institutions. This ongoing support focuses on enhancing the technical capacity of data compilers in nonbanks—particularly insurance corporations, microfinance institutions, and money transfer businesses—and improving the granularity of nonbank reporting forms. These enhancements will strengthen the foundations for financial stability analysis.

Somalia's achievements form part of broader IMF support to strengthen Somalia's macroeconomic statistics. The IMF's December 2025 staff report for the Fourth Review under the Extended Credit Facility (ECF) Arrangement recognized the marked progress in the quality and coverage of statistics, including the introduction of a national CPI, advances in GDP compilation, improvements in external sector statistics, and expanded coverage of MFS. These efforts are helping Somalia rebuild the statistical foundations needed for effective economic policymaking.

Supporting Fiscal Transparency and Debt Management

Stronger public debt and fiscal statistics play a critical role in improving countries' ability to monitor fiscal risks, strengthen debt management, and support evidence-based fiscal policymaking.

UZBEKISTAN: Strengthening Fiscal and Macroeconomic Statistics through Improved Public Sector Sectorization

CCAMTAC

Uzbekistan faced significant gaps in fiscal statistics coverage, consistency, and international comparability. A large number of public entities—including state-owned enterprises, extrabudgetary units, state-targeted funds, and local governments—were not systematically classified under a unified framework. Fiscal, monetary, and national accounts statistics relied on inconsistent definitions of the public sector, weakening their analytical value. Institutional restructuring and staff turnover further disrupted data compilation. Recognizing these challenges, Uzbekistan's Public Financial Management Reform Strategy (2025–2030) and a February 2025 Presidential Decree identified public sector sectorization as a national priority and a key step toward subscribing to the IMF's Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS).

In response, the IMF, through the Caucasus, Central Asia, and Mongolia Technical Assistance Center (CCAMTAC), and in collaboration with the World Bank, supported a sequenced program of technical assistance and training financed by the D4D Fund. Three missions between April 2025 and January 2026 advanced successive phases of reform, including public sector sectorization, classification of public financial corporations, and alignment of the Chart of Accounts with the *Government Finance Statistics Manual 2014* (GFSM 2014).

By end-March 2026, a larger population of public sector institutions had been classified, and Uzbekistan's first Public Sector Institutional Table was produced, establishing a unified register to support consistent macroeconomic statistics. The reforms expanded GFS coverage to the general government sector and enabled regular reporting of quarterly and monthly fiscal data to IMF databases. This strengthened the authorities' capacity to monitor fiscal risks related to SOEs and broader public sector borrowing, while supporting progress toward SDDS subscription, enhancing fiscal transparency and macroeconomic surveillance. Staff capacity has also been strengthened for sustainable compilation and dissemination of GFS.

"We appreciate the effective coordination between IMF technical assistance and two World Bank-funded consultancy projects, which created important synergies and accelerated progress in the development of GFS in Uzbekistan. Through these coordinated efforts, the Ministry of Economy and Finance of Uzbekistan (MEF) has strengthened its institutional sectorization methodologies and compiled the first Public Sector Institutional Table, enhanced the coverage and quality of GFS reporting, and reinforced intra-agency coordination through a Memorandum of Understanding on macroeconomic statistics. In addition, the MEF has commenced the dissemination of monthly and quarterly GFS through both the IMF and MEF's open data portals."

MINISTRY OF FINANCE
Uzbekistan

ANGOLA: Authorities' Reflection on Enhancing Fiscal Transparency and Data Quality

"I am proud to reflect on the remarkable journey Angola has undertaken to modernize its Government Finance Statistics (GFS) framework and align it with the IMF's Government Finance Statistics Manual 2014 (GFSM 2014). This achievement is the result of years of commitment, close collaboration with the IMF, and a shared determination to strengthen the quality, transparency, and international comparability of Angola's fiscal statistics. With the support of the IMF's STA CD and financing from the Data for Decisions Fund (D4D), Angola strengthened its technical capacity, improved data quality, addressed complex fiscal reporting challenges, and successfully published its first government finance statistics fully aligned with GFSM 2014 in October 2025.

The impact of this partnership extends far beyond statistical production. Today, GFSM 2014-based statistics are increasingly used as a reference framework for macro-fiscal analysis, budget preparation, fiscal policy monitoring, and broader public financial management. The reform has also supported improvements in related statistical domains, including Public Sector Debt Statistics (PSDS), while strengthening fiscal transparency and international comparability. Angola's first comprehensive institutional sectorization of the public sector, completed with the support of STA CD, has further laid the foundation for expanding statistical coverage beyond Budgetary Central Government. On behalf of the Government of Angola, I express our sincere appreciation to IMF's STA CD and the D4D Fund for their unwavering partnership and support throughout this important reform journey."

HON. VERA DAVES DE SOUSA
Minister of Finance of Angola

Understanding the Structure and Size of Economic Activity

National accounts provide the foundation for measuring economic activity and economic growth, offering key insights that inform macroeconomic analysis and policy decisions.

SARTTAC

INDIA: Strengthening and Modernizing National Accounts

India's national accounts framework was increasingly constrained by a 2011/12 base year that no longer fully reflected the structure of its economy. Changes in production and consumption patterns, together with the availability of new data sources, highlighted the need to modernize the national accounts and consumer price index (CPI). Existing challenges included gaps in source data, weaknesses in volume measurement, and differences between estimates of GDP by production and expenditure. These limitations affected the measurement of GDP growth and the ability to capture structural transformation in one of the world's largest economies.

To support this modernization effort, the IMF, through the South Asia Regional Training and Technical Assistance Center (SARTTAC) and the D4D Fund, provided sustained support through technical assistance, training, and regular virtual seminars. The support focused on improving source data integration, strengthening supply-and-use balancing, and enhancing volume estimation through the development and use of industrial and services production indices. A parallel workstream supported the modernization of the CPI, including methodological improvements and the incorporation of an updated base year.

In February 2026, India [released a new series of annual and quarterly national accounts] with a 2022/23 base year, replacing the previous 2011/12 series. The updated accounts incorporate new data, improved methodologies and full integration of annual compilation with Supply and Use Table framework that better reflect the economy's structure, providing policymakers with a more accurate basis for economic analysis. Stronger national accounts and improved volume measures enhance the reliability of growth estimates, support better-informed fiscal and monetary policymaking, improve cross-sector consistency across macroeconomic datasets, and strengthen market and investor confidence in official statistics. The work helped position India's statistical system to align with evolving international standards, including the 2025 SNA, in future rebasing exercises.

More GDP Rebasing Achievements

JAMAICA. In 2025, Jamaica rebased its national accounts from a 2007 to a 2015 base year and adopted the 2008 System of National Accounts. The revision introducing methodological improvements to better capture structural changes in the economy, particularly in fast-growing service sectors. Supported by CARTAC, the reforms resulted in a revised GDP series for 2015–2023 and strengthened alignment with international standards.

RWANDA. In 2025, Rwanda rebased its GDP series from 2017 to a 2024 base year, with support from AFRITAC East. The rebasing introduced methodological improvements and updated benchmarks, resulting in a revised national accounts series for 2017-2024 and a more robust basis for economic analysis and policymaking.

POLAND: Developing a Statistical Framework to Measure the Grey Economy

European Commission

Poland sought to strengthen its understanding of the grey economy, including its size, composition, and economic impact. With funding from the European Commission, the IMF's Fiscal Affairs and Statistics Departments supported the Ministry of Finance through a joint initiative that combined expertise in revenue administration, tax policy, and statistics. As part of this effort, the statistics component focused on developing a methodological framework for measuring the grey economy and strengthening the statistical basis for its analysis.

The statistics work built on a 2023 review of the methods used by Statistics Poland to assess GDP exhaustiveness using Eurostat's Tabular Approach to Exhaustiveness. The review determined that the existing data and methods used to account for non-observed economic activity in the national accounts could provide a basis for measuring the informal economy[7]. During a 2025 mission, Statistics Poland worked with IMF staff to further develop and operationalize the methodological framework.

Using the conceptual framework of the SNA 2025 and existing non-observed economy adjustments in the national accounts, the project developed estimates of Poland's informal economy. The work also clarified the relationship between the non-observed economy, the informal economy, and the grey-economy, helping identify which existing national accounts adjustments could be used to derive indicative estimates.

The project established a methodological basis for measuring Poland's informal economy and established the methodological link between the non-observed economy framework and broader grey economy measurement, supporting a more systematic approach to quantifying and understanding grey economy activities.

[7] The non-observed economy refers to productive activities that evade standard statistical measurement. The grey economy refers to economic activities that may be legal in nature but partially or wholly concealed from the authorities, especially to avoid taxes, social contributions, regulatory requirements, or other statutory obligations.

SYRIA: Rebuilding GDP Statistics to Support Economic Recovery

Reliable macroeconomic statistics are essential for policy-making and engagement with the international community. In Syria, years of conflict and institutional disruption significantly weakened data collection, compilation, and dissemination processes, resulting in substantial information gaps in macroeconomic statistics. Following re-engagement with the IMF in 2025, the need for reliable data to support macroeconomic analysis and policy dialogue was identified as a priority. In response, STA worked with the Syrian authorities through diagnostic assessments and virtual consultations to assess capacity constraints and develop a roadmap for rebuilding the statistical system. One of the early priorities identified was the development of a new GDP benchmark.

To support this effort, the IMF, through the Middle East Technical Assistance Center (METAC), provided targeted technical assistance to the Syrian Central Bureau of Statistics, starting with an off-site mission in Beirut in September 2025, followed by virtual missions and workshops conducted in collaboration with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA). With limited official source data available, the mission team applied a supply and use tables framework and drew on IMF analytical tools to fill data gaps, strengthen consistency, and improve coverage and methodology.

These efforts culminated in the development of a new GDP benchmark. The new 2023 GDP benchmark was finalized in early 2026 and endorsed by the Syrian authorities in April 2026, providing an important foundation for Syria's statistical recovery. The exercise improved the reliability of economic activity estimates and strengthened the basis for macroeconomic assessment and policy dialogue with the IMF and the international community. More broadly, renewed collaboration between the IMF and key institutions, including the Central Bank of Syria, the Planning and Statistics Committee, and the Ministry of Finance, helped establish a roadmap for rebuilding Syria's statistical infrastructure and supporting the production of sound, policy-relevant macroeconomic statistics.

Improving Economic Monitoring and Early Warning Capacity

Reliable price statistics help policymakers monitor changes in the cost of living, track price developments across goods, services, trade, and property markets, and identify emerging risks in the economy. High-frequency indicators complement these statistics by providing timely signals on economic activity, strengthening economic surveillance and crisis response.

UKRAINE: Developing an Import Price Index to Support Inflation Analysis and EU Accession Readiness

UKRAINE CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

Before 2026, Ukraine did not compile an import price index, leaving an important gap in its statistical toolkit at a time of exceptional economic disruption. As the conflict reshaped supply chains and increased reliance on imported goods, policymakers had limited ability to distinguish domestically generated inflation from price pressures transmitted through imports. The absence of the index also affected national accounts compilation, since an import price index is needed to accurately measure import volumes. Developing the index would also support Ukraine's preparations for EU accession, as import price statistics are required under Eurostat regulations for euro area countries and recommended for other EU members.

To close this gap, IMF provided targeted capacity development to the State Statistical Service of Ukraine between September 2024 and January 2026, combining in-person missions with virtual engagements. The work focused on establishing a compilation framework for a monthly import price index, designing and launching a new survey of importers, and moving from experimental compilation to regular production.

In March 2026, Ukraine a its first monthly import price index. The new indicator gives policymakers a clearer view of the external sources of inflation and helps them assess how changes in global prices and disrupted supply chains are affecting the domestic economy. It strengthens the statistical basis for national accounts by providing a more accurate deflator for import values and improving the measurement of import volumes. The index also supports Ukraine's alignment with European statistical standards and advances the country's preparations for EU accession.

More Price Statistics Modernization and High Frequency Indicators Achievements

GHANA. In October 2025, Ghana published its first experimental Monthly Indicator of Economic Growth (MIEG), providing policymakers with timely signals of economic activity ahead of quarterly GDP releases. IMF technical assistance supported the development of the indicator and a high-frequency VAT sales database, strengthening economic surveillance and national accounts compilation.

KENYA. In May 2026, Kenya published its first official Residential Property Price Index, providing policymakers, supervisors, and researchers with an official measure of housing market developments. IMF technical assistance supported data collection, methodological improvements, and stronger quality assurance and dissemination practices, strengthening housing market monitoring and financial stability analysis.

RWANDA. In November 2025, Rwanda adopted a rebased Producer Price Index, providing a more accurate measure of price developments in the mining, manufacturing, and energy sectors. With support from AFRITAC East, Rwanda introduced updated weights, an improved establishment sample, and a new compilation tool to support ongoing updates.

WAEMU[9]. In February 2025, all eight WAEMU member countries released an updated Harmonized Consumer Price Index, providing more accurate and reliable measures of inflation across the region. IMF-supported regional workshops helped address aggregation issues, update expenditure weights, and align compilation practices with international standards.

[9] Members of WAEMU are Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte D'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal, and Togo

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- Strengthening national statistical systems for evidence-based decision making
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Low- and Lower-Middle-Income (LLMICs)

Fragile and Conflict-Affected States (FCS)

GLOBAL REACH

Support to ~50% of IMF's membership

PLANNED INVESTMENT

US$45 million (Phase II 2025–30)

DELIVERY FOR IMPACT

Module **1**

Enhancing **economic monitoring** through timelier and more granular data

Improving economic management through better **national accounts** and **price statistics**

Managing fiscal risks through stronger **fiscal and public debt statistics**

Monitoring external risks and shocks through robust **external sector statistics**

Module **2**

Integrating **financial inclusion** data for policymaking

Module **3**

Expanding access to statistical skills through **online learning**

Module **4**

Strengthening policymaking through improved **data use, transparency, and accessibility**

Module **5**

Advancing **Environment and Climate Change Statistics** to support climate-informed policies

HOW WE DELIVER

- Digital Tools and Online Learning
- Blended Delivery and Flexible Resourcing
- Continuous Engagement
- Institutional Coordination and Stakeholder Engagement
- Innovation and New Data Sources

OUTCOMES

- Stronger Institutional Arrangements
- Enhanced Staff Capacity
- Increased Ownership of Reforms

Better Data for Making Decisions

D4D-II PARTNERS

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REPUBLIC OF KOREA

LUXEMBOURG

THE NETHERLANDS

NORWAY

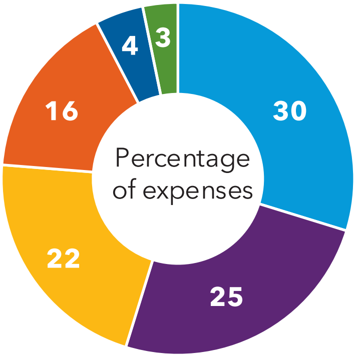
SAUDI ARABIA

SWITZERLAND

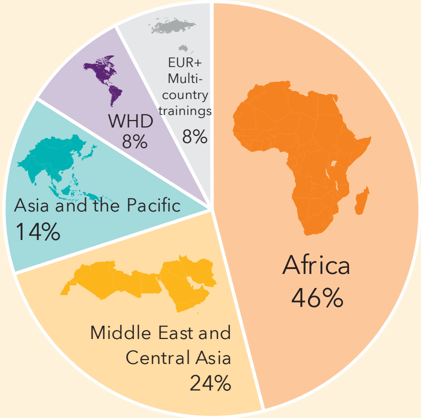
D4D-II CONTRIBUTION

D4D-II supports beneficiary countries across the following statistical areas:

FY26 D4D-II Expenditures



FY26 CD Activities Distribution



29% of CD to countries was delivered to FCS

Key Achievements and Success Stories

COLOMBIA: Improving Financial Inclusion Data

Colombia strengthened coordination across banking, insurance, and pension data systems, enhancing the availability and usefulness of financial inclusion data for monitoring and policymaking

THE GAMBIA: Enhancing Environment and Climate Change Statistics

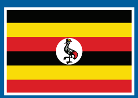
The Gambia identified priority sectors and significantly increased staffing for compiling environment statistics, helping build a more integrated climate data system.

KOSOVO: Filling a Data Gap on Residential Property Prices

Kosovo launched its first Residential Property Price Index (RPPI), providing timely indicators of housing market dynamics across all regions. The index delivers timely and accurate measures of real state market developments, supporting financial stability and policy.

NEPAL: Strengthening Fiscal Statistics for Better Risk Management

Nepal identified previously unreported fiscal liabilities and incorporated them into official fiscal statistics. This strengthened the assessment of fiscal risks and debt sustainability, providing policymakers with a more complete picture of the country's fiscal position.



UGANDA: Modernizing Statistics to Address Timeliness Gaps

Uganda developed a system that produces near real-time GDP estimates. Using machine learning, the system combines official statistics with innovative data sources, including satellite imagery and Google Trends. By addressing critical data timeliness gaps, it strengthens economic monitoring and supports more informed policymaking.

YEMEN: Restoring Key Fiscal and External Statistics to Support International Re-engagement

Yemen strengthened macroeconomic statistics across key sectors, enabling the country's first comprehensive economic assessment with the IMF in 11 years. This milestone helped pave the way for re-engagement with the international community and the mobilization of external support.

DATA FOR DECISIONS

ONLINE LEARNING

During FY20–26, over **21,000** learners benefited from D4D Online curriculum

Available in **4** languages

- Arabic **(NEW)**
- English
- French
- Spanish

Japan-IMF Partnership in Statistics

Strengthening Data for Better Policymaking

JAPANGOV
THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

*Japan is a longstanding **strategic partner** supporting IMF capacity development (CD) in macroeconomic statistics, strengthening data for effective policymaking and surveillance*

BILATERAL PROGRAMS SUPPORTED BY JAPAN (JSA) IN FY2027

Themes	**Data Dissemination**	**Public Sector Debt Statistics (PSDS)**	**External Sector Statistics (ESS)**	**Real Sector Statistics (RSS) and Government Finance Statistics (GFS)**
Objective	Promote data transparency through IMF Data Standards implementation	Strengthen PSDS through diagnostic assessments to improve debt transparency	Advance ESS to strengthen macroeconomic assessment and monitor external risks	Strengthen real sector and fiscal statistics to support economic analysis and policymaking
Priority Countries	Eligible countries globally	Eligible countries across Africa and Asia-Pacific region	Eligible countries in the Asia-Pacific Region	Eligible countries in the Asia-Pacific Region

DELIVERY FOR IMPACT

Technical Assistance & Training
Workshops · Missions · Peer Learning · Online Learning

Stronger Statistical Systems
Enhanced institutional arrangements and staff capacity

Better Data
Improved quality, coverage and timeliness of statistics

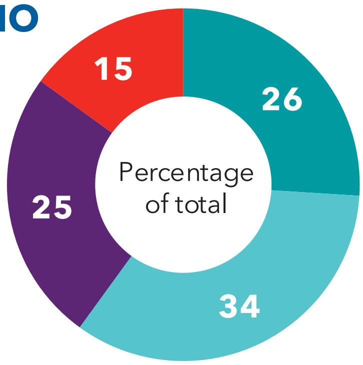
Better Policymaking
Strengthened data transparency and use in economic analysis

Delivering Results

JAPANGOV
THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

~$10M PORTFOLIO

- RSS and GFS in the Asia-Pacific Region
- ESS in the Asia-Pacific Region
- PSDS in Africa and Asia-Pacific Region
- Data Dissemination Globally



REGIONAL COVERAGE

Supported **25** countries in Fiscal Year 2026:

56% from Asia and the Pacific

40% from Africa

4% from Middle East and Central Asia

HOW WE DELIVER

INTEGRATED

Integrated with IMF surveillance and lending, with support delivered through HQ and on-the-ground experts.

COUNTRY-TAILORED

Targeted to specific data gaps and institutional capacity constraints

FLEXIBLE MODALITIES

Diagnostics, technical assistance, and training delivered through in-person, virtual, and hybrid modalities.

SELECTED IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

CAMBODIA

Stronger fiscal analysis and risk monitoring

Expanded coverage of government finance statistics and introduced balance sheet data, improving monitoring of fiscal risks.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO AND DJIBOUTI

Greater transparency and access to macroeconomic data

Launched National Summary Data Pages, providing access to key economic statistics through a single platform.

MAURITIUS

Improved transparency and credibility of public debt data

Completed a public sector debt statistics diagnostic assessment, identifying reform priorities and strengthening data practices.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Stronger monitoring of external sector vulnerabilities

Developed the first International Investment Position statistics, strengthening capacity to analyze external sector developments and risks.

JSA programs strengthen statistical systems, delivering better data for more effective policymaking and IMF surveillance.