

**Summary of Consultation Responses:
GFSM Discussion Notes
2.10, 2.16, 2.17, 2.21, 2.27 and 2.32**

Prepared by the Statistics Department

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

Consultation on Six Discussion Notes for Updating the GFSM 2014

The consultation on six Discussion Notes for Updating the *Government Finance Statistics Manual 2014* (GFSM 2014)¹ ran from May 29 – June 26, 2026.

In total 32 responses were received from country authorities in 21 countries, as well as five independent GFS experts. Responses covered all regions, with the largest share from the Western Hemisphere, with fewer but similar number of responses from countries in Africa, Europe, Middle East and Central Asia and Asia and Pacific.

Most respondents (29 in total) indicated that they were engaged in macroeconomic statistical compilation (predominantly of government finance statistics (GFS)) with the other respondents reporting they were users of GFS data.

The below section provides summary information on the views of respondents with respect to the six Discussion Notes (DNs); Annex 1 provides detailed responses including the options preferred across the various DNs with an explanation and responses to additional/follow-up questions.

RESPONSES TO DISCUSSION NOTES

All six Discussion Notes attracted strong engagement from respondents. As shown in the table below, respondents were invited to indicate which Discussion Notes they wished to comment on and were able to select more than one.

Discussion Notes	Number of respondents
2.10 Valuation and recognition of loans	25
2.16 Treatment of privatization and nationalization	19
2.17 Boundary between current and capital transfers	25
2.21 Social security schemes	22
2.27 Relationship between GFS and IPSAS / IFRS	16
2.32 Balance sheet analysis	21

Responses to DN 2.10 indicated strong support for maintaining the GFSM approach of recording loans at nominal value while strengthening practical guidance through additional examples and decision trees. Respondents supported clarifying circumstances under which loan value resets may be appropriate, retaining the current memorandum item treatment of concessional loans, as well as new guidance on collective loan schemes, noting that recognition of transfer elements in nonmarket lending

¹ All six Discussion Notes were based on research work carried out by the GFSM Update Task Teams and endorsed for global consultation by the Government Finance Statistics Advisory Committee (GFSAC).

can better reflect economic substance. Overall, respondents emphasized the importance of consistency across macroeconomic statistics, debtor–creditor symmetry, and international comparability.

Responses to DN 2.16 showed broad support for strengthening guidance on privatization and nationalization through the use of clearer criteria, decision trees, and additional examples. Most respondents favored the proposed indicator-based approach for distinguishing privatization from individual asset sales, viewing it as a practical way to improve consistency and reduce reliance on judgment in complex cases. Respondents also supported expanded guidance on recording proceeds from indirect privatizations and asset sales. There was likewise strong support for extending guidance on nationalization, including cases where government control is obtained without legal ownership.

Responses to DN 2.17 demonstrated strong support for clarifying the boundary between current and capital transfers through updated definitions, additional examples, and practical guidance. Most respondents favored revising the definition of capital transfers to align with the *2025 SNA* and *BPM7* while supplementing the concepts with illustrative examples to facilitate consistent application. Respondents also broadly supported inclusion of guidance on use of the counterparty perspective when distinguishing current from capital transfers. At the same time, respondents regarded the existing guidance on the timing of recording of transfers as sufficient.

Responses to DN 2.21 showed broad support for updating and clarifying guidance on social security and social insurance schemes in line with the *2025 SNA*. Respondents favored clearer decision criteria, revised terminology, and enhanced decision trees to improve the distinction between social security schemes, employment-related schemes, and other social insurance arrangements. There was also strong support for introducing the concept of constructive liabilities although not recognizing them as liabilities within the GFSM framework. Expanded guidance on employer-independent schemes, clearer criteria for distinguishing pension and non-pension defined benefit schemes, and flexible classification of provident funds according to their economic characteristics were also supported.

Responses to DN 2.27 indicated strong support for strengthening links between GFS and IPSAS primarily through practical guidance and external supporting tools rather than expanding the GFSM. Most respondents favored use and development of the IPSAS–GFSM Alignment Dashboard as the primary mechanism for identifying and monitoring opportunities for convergence between accounting and statistical standards. Respondents also supported a streamlined Appendix 6 focused on key similarities and differences, supplemented by external resources providing targeted guidance on major areas of divergence.

Responses to DN 2.32 showed strong support for including conceptual guidance on Balance Sheet Analysis (BSA) in the GFSM while developing detailed implementation guidance separately. Respondents viewed this approach as preserving the GFSM's role as a conceptual framework while allowing practical guidance to evolve in response to user needs. Most agreed that implementation efforts should initially focus on the general government sector and expand gradually to the wider public sector over time. Respondents emphasized the importance of practical examples, implementation tools, and a phased approach that takes account of differences in data availability and institutional capacity.

All feedback from the consultation, including comments from those who responded, will be carefully considered when advancing each of the research projects and drafting Proposed Recommendations.

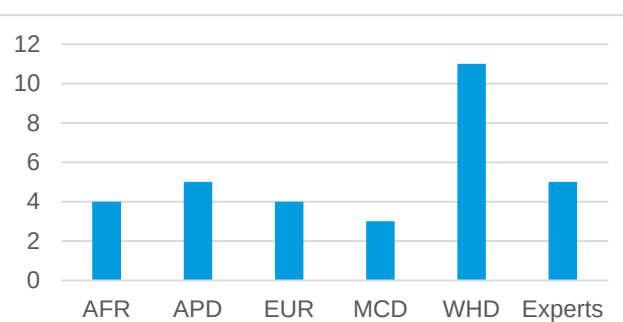
Annex 1: Detailed Responses

RESPONDENTS

Number of responses: 32

BY REGION

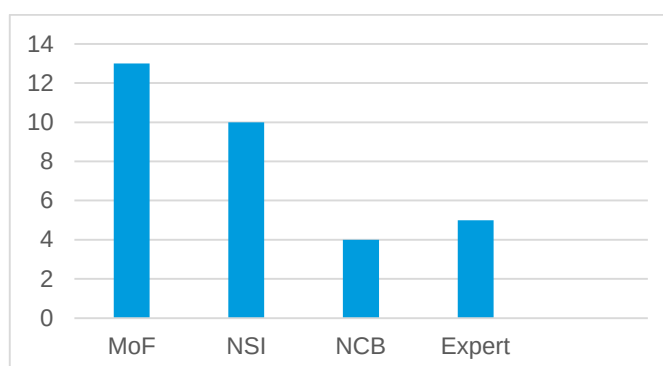
Region	Count
Country authorities in:	26*
Africa (AFR)	4
Asia & Pacific (APD)	5
Europe (EUR)	4
Middle East & Central Asia (MCD)	3
Western Hemisphere (WHD)	11
Individuals (Experts)	5
Total	32



* 27 responses were received from authorities in 21 different countries

BY ORGANIZATION

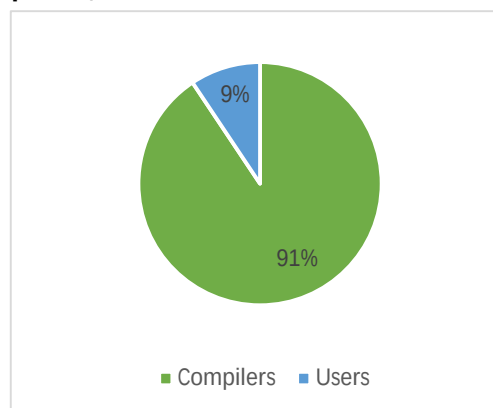
Institution	Count
Ministry of Finance (MoF)	13
National Central Bank (NCB)	4
National Statistics Institute (NSI)	10
Independent Expert (Expert)	5
Total	32



BY AREAS OF EXPERTISE / INTEREST

Question: What is your main interest in, and/or relationship with, Government Finance Statistics?

Main Interest	Count
GFS compilation	24
Compilation of other macroeconomic statistics (e.g., national accounts, balance of payments)	4
Policymaking	0
GFS analysis and use (e.g., analyst, academic)	2
Other (1 compiler, 1 user)	2
Total	32



2.10 Valuation and recognition of loans

Do you agree with the continuation of the GFSM 2014 approach of maintaining consistency with the general SNA and BPM principle of recording loans at nominal value? There was strong support for continuing to record loans at nominal value in the GFS, with most respondents commenting on the importance of consistent treatment across macroeconomic statistics, debtor-creditor symmetry, and international comparability. Several respondents noted that nominal value remains useful as a measure of the contractual obligation. Some respondents qualified their support, noting that supplementary information may be needed where loans are concessional, impaired, or not expected to be fully recovered. A small minority favored alternative valuation approaches more aligned with international accounting standards.

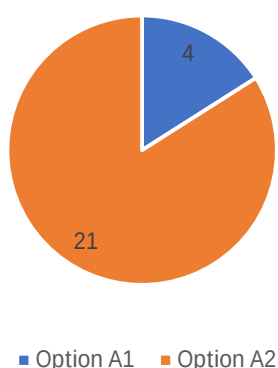
Do you support introducing a new decision tree to summarize scenarios associated with lending and their statistical treatment? Respondents supported introducing a decision tree to help compilers apply the guidance on loans (covering nonmarket lending, loan deterioration, restructuring, and related capital injection issues) more consistently. Several emphasized that the decision tree should be consistent with other GFSM decision trees and a few respondents considered current guidance sufficient or noted that usefulness would depend on the final decision tree design.

Issue A: Treatment of collective loan schemes provided on a nonmarket basis

For this issue, two options were presented:

- A1 - provide no additional guidance on the recording of collective loan schemes.
- A2 - include guidance clarifying the circumstances in which partitioning of collective loan schemes is appropriate.

The Task Team recommended Option A2. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



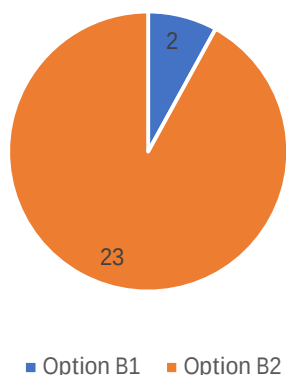
Most respondents supported the recommended Option A2, considering that additional guidance clarifying the treatment of collective loan schemes with a significant transfer element from inception, would better reflect the economic substance of these public lending schemes. Several noted practical challenges, including estimating expected non-repayment, setting thresholds, and preserving debtor-creditor consistency. A minority favored retaining the current approach, mainly because of concerns about complexity and data availability.

Issue B: Treatment of loans recorded at nominal value at inception where evidence of the deterioration of the claim value emerges

For this issue, two options were presented:

- B1 - provide no clarification of “loan deterioration due to publicly known events” in GFSM.
- B2 - provide examples of “loan deterioration due to publicly known events” (beyond loan restructure) without defining it as a precise statistical concept.

The Task Team recommended Option B2. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



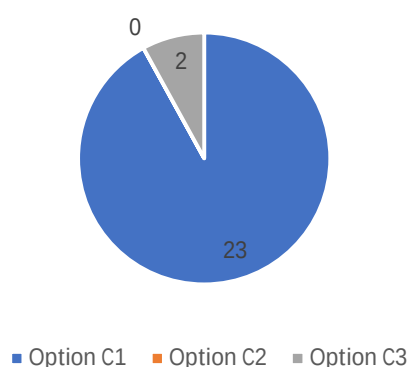
Respondents strongly supported the recommended Option B2, noting that further guidance would help clarify when loan value resets may be appropriate. Several respondents pointed out the need to distinguish exceptional qualifying events from routine impairment, stressing that non-performance alone should not trigger a value reset. One specific example shared of a potential loan value reset was where public sector claims are demonstrably irrecoverable but are not formally written off due to the need for legislative authorization.

Issue C: Presentation of concessional loans

For this issue, three options were presented.

- C1 - maintaining the *GFSM 2014*-style recording of concessional loans (and the associated implicit transfer) as memorandum items.
- C2 - supplement the GFSM taxonomy by including “of which” subcategories under *Loans*.
- C3 - include a supplementary version of a balance sheet statement where all assets are recorded at “market” value, approximated by fair value where no observable market price exists.

The Task Team recommended Option C1. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



Respondents strongly supported the recommended Option C1, favoring continued presentation of concessional loans through memorandum items. Respondents generally considered this approach to be a practical compromise which was the least burdensome for compilers or confusing for users. A small minority favored stronger disclosure or alternative valuation approaches to better reflect the economic substance of concessional lending.

If one of the proposed options were to be adopted, how practical and likely would it be for your country to compile the necessary data? Respondents identified implementation as feasible in principle but dependent on data availability. Several noted that nominal loan data are generally available, while information on concessional elements, recovery rates, expected losses, or fair values is often incomplete or dispersed. Common challenges included fragmented data systems, limited accrual data, and

coordination across institutions. Some respondents indicated that existing accounting information could support compilation in certain cases.

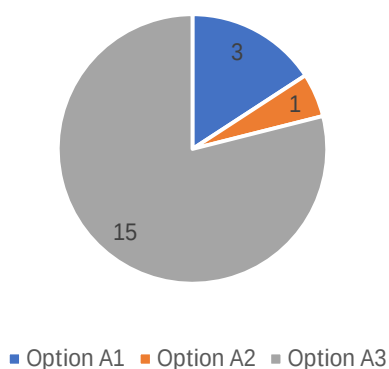
2.16 Treatment of privatization and nationalization

Issue A: Distinguishing between asset sales and privatization for direct transactions

For this issue, three options were presented:

- A1 - maintain current guidance in *GFSM 2014*.
- A2 - expand privatization guidance to explicitly reference general guidance on institutional unit classification in the text on privatization.
- A3 - expand privatization guidance by introducing an indicator-based approach anchored in institutional unit principles and quasi-corporation guidance.

The Task Team recommended Option A3. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



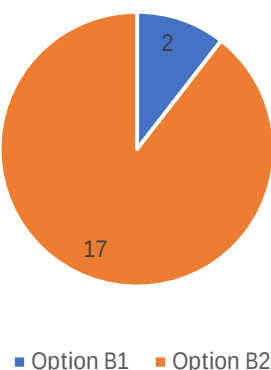
Most respondents supported the recommended Option A3, favoring an indicator-based approach and decision tree to distinguish privatization (disposal of an institutional unit) from sale of individual assets. Respondents generally considered that the clearer criteria would reduce judgment in complex cases and improve consistency. A minority preferred less prescriptive guidance or considered the existing approach sufficient.

Issue B: Recording of proceeds from indirect privatizations and asset sales

For this issue, two options were presented:

- B1 - maintain current guidance in *GFSM 2014*.
- B2 - establish explicit guidance detailing how to record proceeds related to indirect asset sales and privatizations.

The Task Team recommended Option B2. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



Most respondents supported the recommended Option B2, noting that clearer guidance would improve the recording of proceeds from indirect privatizations and public corporation asset sales. Several respondents highlighted the usefulness of the decision tree as a practical aid to identify when guidance on rerouting, withdrawals of equity, and imputed capital injections should be applied. Minority comments either favored simpler treatment or indicated limited need for additional guidance.

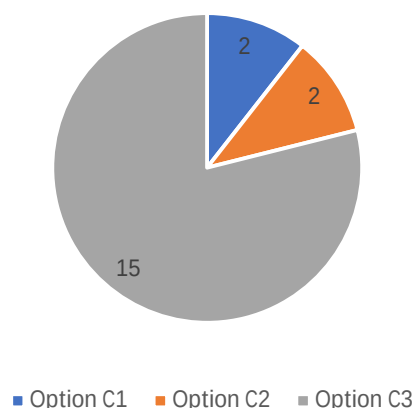
Do you have any comments on the numerical examples? Respondents generally found the numerical examples useful. Several suggested that examples should be retained or expanded in final guidance because they help translate conceptual recommendations into compilation practice. Some respondents requested simple, phased examples showing the entries for each institutional unit. A few had no comments or considered the examples sufficient.

Issue C: Nationalization

For this issue, two options were presented:

- C1 - maintain current guidance in *GFSM 2014*.
- C2 - align the GFSM guidance on nationalization with the *2025 SNA* without further elaboration.
- C3 - align the GFSM guidance on nationalization with the *2025 SNA*, appending it to describe treatment of control without legal ownership

The Task Team recommended Option C3. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



Most respondents supported the recommended Option C3, noting that it was important that the guidance cover the scenario where nationalization occurs through mechanisms other than government control through legal ownership via acquisition of equity. Respondents viewed the current lack of guidance as an omission and pointed out that the proposal aligned with existing guidance on government control. Minority views favored a narrower approach, mainly to preserve simplicity or because these situations were less relevant in their country context.

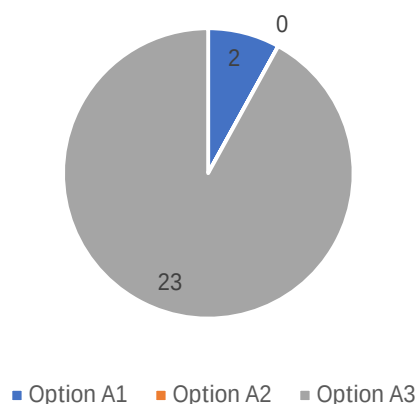
2.17 Boundary between current and capital transfers

Issue A: Definition of capital transfers

For this issue, three options were presented:

- A1 - maintain the current language in the *GFSM 2014*.
- A2 - align the language used in the new GFSM to the new definition in the *2025 SNA / BPM7*.
- A3 - revise the definition of capital transfers in Chapter 3 and supplement it with examples.

The Task Team recommended Option A3. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



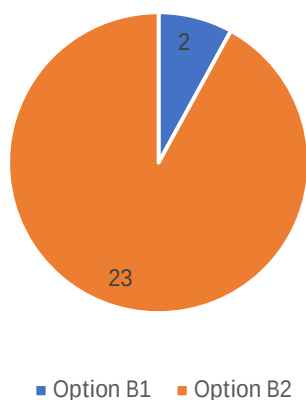
Respondents strongly supported the recommended Option A3, highlighting that the new definition in 2025 SNA and BPM7 is conceptually useful but needs greater operational clarity. Examples of capital transfers suggested by respondents included investment grants, capital injections, transfers to cover accumulated losses, and compensation payments. There was broad agreement though that examples should be clearly labelled as illustrative and not exhaustive. A small minority of respondents considered current guidance sufficient.

Issue B: Distinguishing between current and capital transfers

For this issue, two options were presented:

- B1 - maintain the current language in the *GFSM 2014*.
- B2 - add guidance on considering the counterparty perspective when distinguishing between current and capital transfers.

The Task Team recommended Option B2. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



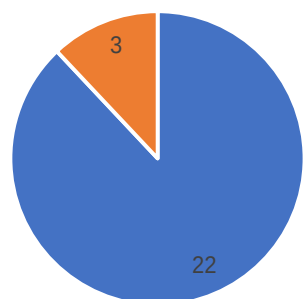
Respondents strongly supported the recommended Option B2, considering the current transfer definition a sound conceptual foundation, but viewing it as insufficient by itself for distinguishing current from capital transfers. Respondents generally considered that the counterparty perspective could help when classifying transfers and some recommended the inclusion of practical examples to further facilitate consistent application of the guidance. However, several cautioned that counterparty information may not always be available and that the approach should remain a practical aid rather than a strict rule.

Issue C: Time of recording

For this issue, two options were presented:

- C1 - maintain the current guidance in *GFSM 2014*.
- C2 - maintain principles concerning time of recording but add more guidance for specific types of capital transfers where the meaning of accrual is less clear.

The Task Team recommended Option C1. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



■ Option C1 ■ Option C2

Most respondents supported the recommended Option C1, considering current GFSM guidance on time of recording broadly adequate and aligned with accrual principles. Several respondents nevertheless noted that examples could help clarify difficult cases involving legal claims, conditions, budget approvals, and payments occurring in different periods. Minority supporters of Option C2 argued that targeted examples would improve compilation consistency without changing the basic recording principle.

Do you encounter any challenges with respect to the time of recording of specific types of capital transfers for which the GFSM guidance is unclear or insufficient? Most respondents did not identify major challenges with time of recording for transfers. Where challenges were noted, they related to conditional investment grants, multi-year projects, donor-funded projects, accumulated losses, capital injections in tranches, and disaster-related compensation. Respondents generally framed these as practical application issues rather than reasons to change the core principle. However, a minority supported the inclusion of examples to clarify accrual recording in such cases.

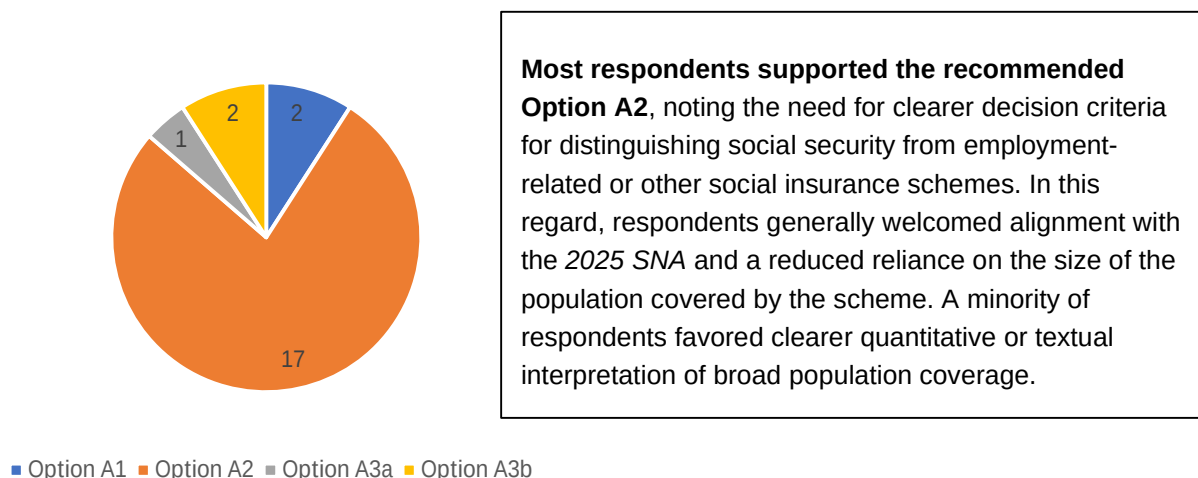
2.21 Social security schemes

Issue A: Distinguishing between Social Security and Employment-related Schemes

For this issue, four options were presented:

- A1 - maintain the current guidance in *GFSM 2014*.
- A2 - add more explanations and criteria for the treatment of social security pension schemes and other social insurance schemes in line with *2025 SNA*.
- A3a – clarify “large sections of the community” so that where public sector employees constitute a large section of the community the scheme is considered as a social security scheme.
- A3b - clarify “large sections of the community” so that where public sector employees constitute a large section of the community the scheme is considered as an other social insurance scheme.

The Task Team recommended Option A2. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



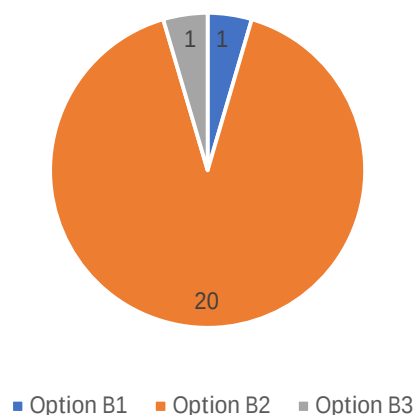
Do you consider the proposed updates to the GFSM decision tree (in Annex 1) sufficient to classify social insurance schemes in your country? Most respondents viewed the proposed updates to the decision tree as useful. However, some respondents highlighted further areas for possible improvement, including more clarity on first question of decision tree and reference to contractual and/or legal nature of social insurance schemes. In addition, one respondent suggested that the decision tree be supported by examples, and another proposed a textual amendment to clarify that the employees referenced in the decision tree are specifically: public sector employees. A few respondents considered the existing *GFSM 2014* guidance adequate in their own country.

Issue B: Defining and Recognizing Constructive Liabilities

For this issue, three options were presented:

- B1 - maintain the current guidance in *GFSM 2014*.
- B2 - introduce the concept of constructive liabilities and clarify that they are not included in the liabilities reported under the GFSM.
- B3 - Introduce the concept of constructive liabilities in the new GFSM and recognize them as liabilities in the GFSM framework.

The Task Team recommended Option B2. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



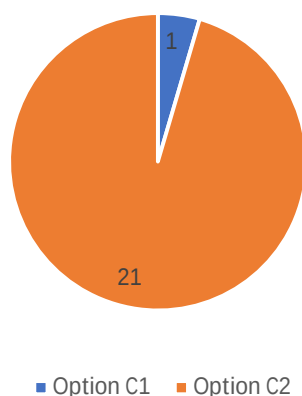
Respondents strongly supported the recommended Option B2, emphasizing the importance of alignment with the *2025 SNA* as well as the benefit of additional clarity without changing the core framework. Several respondents noted that it was important to distinguish between constructive liabilities, legal/contractual liabilities and contingent liabilities. Minority views argued either that the current guidance was sufficient or that in economic substance constructive liabilities represented fiscal obligations and so should be considered as liabilities within the GFSM framework.

Issue C: Delineating Social Insurance and Employer-independent Schemes

For this issue, two options were presented:

- C1 - maintain the current guidance in *GFSM 2014*.
- C2 - expand the GFSM guidance with additional specifications for employer-independent schemes to align with the *2025 SNA* guidance.

The Task Team recommended Option C2. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



Respondents strongly supported the recommended Option C2, highlighting the importance of aligning with the latest terminology and text of the *2025 SNA*. Respondents noted that the current guidance is too tied to the traditional employer-employee relationship and does not fully reflect newer forms of collective insurance arrangements, such as employer-independent schemes and arrangements involving self-employed workers. Some respondents requested the inclusion of examples and further clarity on any impact of employer-independent schemes on the fiscal accounts.

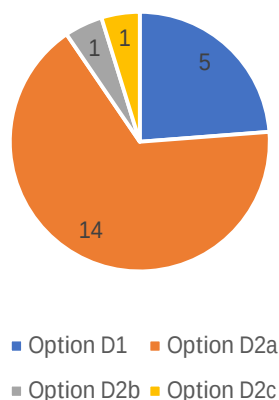
Issue D: Classifying Provident Funds

For this issue, four options were presented:

- D1 - maintain the current guidance in *GFSM 2014*.
- D2a - expand GFSM guidance on Provident Funds but retain flexibility on both their sector classification and the instrument classification of their liabilities.
- D2b - expand GFSM guidance on Provident Funds to classify them always as deposit-taking corporations and the liabilities as other deposits.

- D2c - expand GFSM guidance on Provident Funds to classify them based on social insurance scheme organization with liabilities as obligations under pension entitlements.

The Task Team recommended Option D2a. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



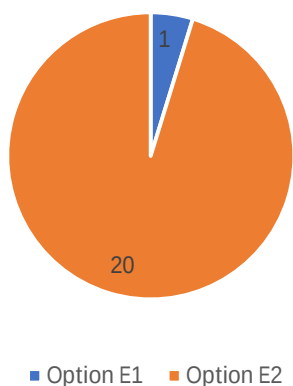
Most respondents supported the recommended Option D2a, favoring classification of Provident Funds according to their economic characteristics. Respondents noted that Provident Funds vary across countries and may resemble deposit schemes, pension schemes, or broader social insurance arrangements. Although flexibility was supported some respondents noted need for clarity on links with public financial corporation boundary issues. Minority views favored retaining current guidance, a more uniform classification, or alternative treatments based on regional experience.

Issue E: Distinction between pension and non-pension defined benefit schemes

For this issue, two options were presented:

- E1 - maintain the current guidance in *GFSM 2014*.
- E2 - expand GFSM guidance with (i) practical pension vs non-pension criteria, (ii) explicit treatment rules for bundled schemes, and (iii) a concise conceptual explanation of why pension entitlements are recognized as assets while other social benefits are not.

The Task Team recommended Option E2. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



Respondents strongly supported the recommended Option E2, noting the need for the proposed additional operational guidance to enhance comparability and improve liability recognition. Respondents welcomed the additional clarity for hybrid schemes (such as those combining retirement, disability, sickness, unemployment, and/or survivor benefits) but some noted the need for more guidance on practical criteria for separating components. In addition, a minority highlighted possible implementation challenges due to source data limitations.

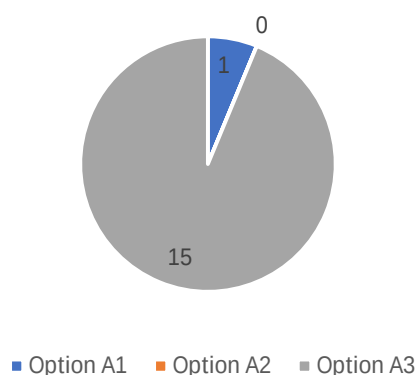
2.27 Relationship between GFS and IPSAS / IFRS

Issue A: Opportunities for further alignment of GFSM and IPSAS

For this issue, three options were presented:

- A1 – maintaining status quo - GFSM opportunities identified on a project-by-project basis while IPSASB identifies these through its IPSAS-GFSM Alignment Dashboard
- A2 - the IMF Statistics Department develops its own central tracking mechanism to identify opportunities to increase alignment with IPSAS Standards.
- A3 - use of external IPSAS-GFSM alignment dashboard to identify opportunities for alignment.

The Task Team recommended Option A3. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



Respondents strongly supported the recommended Option A3, favoring continued use and development of an external IPSAS-GFSM Alignment Dashboard. Respondents generally viewed this as the most efficient way to monitor alignment opportunities and differences by both the GFS and accountancy communities. Several supported regular updates and greater practical detail.

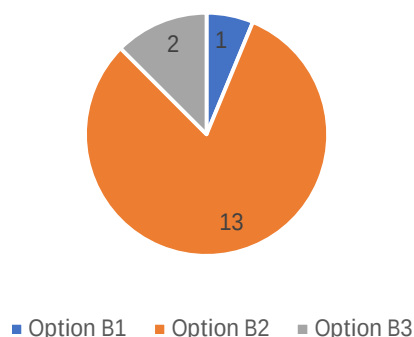
Are there any enhancement to the IPSAS-GFSM Alignment Dashboard that you believe would be necessary? Several respondents suggested to make the Dashboard more detailed and granular in order to better serve the needs of practitioners. Suggestions for inclusion include practical examples, implementation case studies as well as links to further reconciliation guidance on key areas of difference, such as leases, provisions, consolidation boundaries, PPPs, pensions, and measurement approaches. Respondents also highlighted that the dashboard could be made more accessible through interactive filtering functionality and additional information on the date of the latest standards and any relevant ongoing update projects.

Issue B: Revisions to Appendix 6 of the GFSM

For this issue, three options were presented:

- B1 – make limited editorial changes only in Appendix 6.
- B2 - reduce the level of detail and provide separate external resources to provide detailed information on linkages between GFS and IPSAS.
- B3 - provide more detailed guidance on the similarities and differences between statistical guidance and IPSAS Standards within Appendix 6.

The Task Team recommended Option B2. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



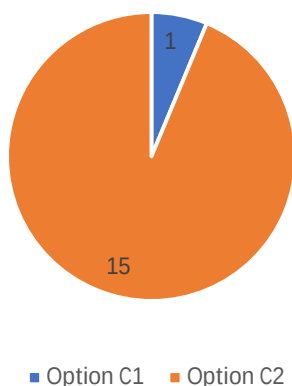
Most respondents supported the recommended Option B2, favoring a shorter Appendix 6 focused on key alignments and differences, with links to external resources for detailed guidance. Respondents generally viewed this as more sustainable given the faster evolution of accounting standards. Several stressed that external resources should be authoritative and accessible. A minority favored having more detailed guidance within the GFSM for ease of use.

Issue C: Development of practical guidance on how to bridge the differences between accounting and statistical treatments

For this issue, two options were presented:

- C1 - provide additional general guidance.
- C2 - provide additional guidance on specific areas (primarily outside of the GFSM).

The Task Team recommended Option C2. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



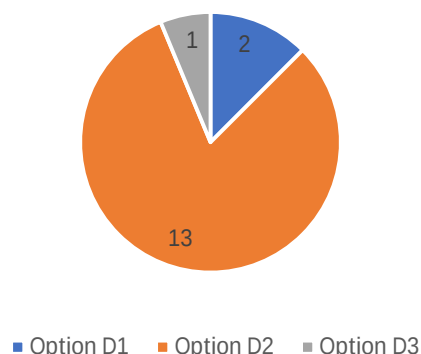
Respondents strongly supported the recommended Option C2, favoring targeted guidance on areas where accounting and statistical treatments differ materially. Respondents considered this more useful for compilers than broad generic guidance. Priority areas mentioned by respondents included leases, provisions, guarantees, pensions, PPPs, consolidation boundaries, sector classification, financial instruments, valuation differences, and depreciation versus consumption of fixed capital. Several respondents also requested mapping tools, decision trees, materiality thresholds, and reconciliation templates.

Issue D: High-level reconciliations between GFS and accounting source data

For this issue, three options were presented:

- D1 - maintain the current guidance in *GFSM 2014*.
- D2 – provide high-level guidance in the updated GFSM and more detailed supporting guidance outside the GFSM.
- D3 - provide detailed guidance in the GFSM.

The Task Team recommended Option D2. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



Most respondents supported the recommended Option D2, favoring high-level reconciliation guidance in the GFSM and more detailed material outside the manual. Respondents viewed reconciliation as an important tool for improving transparency, understanding differences between frameworks, and strengthening the credibility of statistical outputs. However, many noted that reconciliation practices can vary across countries and accounting systems, suggesting that detailed implementation guidance should remain flexible and adaptable to national circumstances.

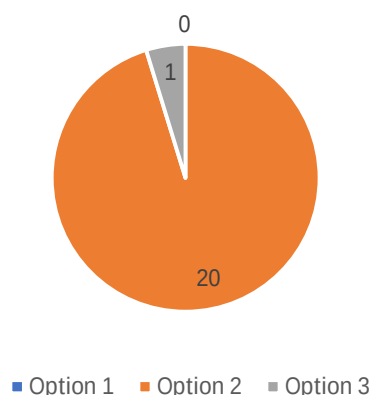
2.32 Balance sheet analysis

Issue : Balance sheet analysis

For this issue, three options were presented:

- 1 - integrate conceptual and practical guidance into the update of the GFSM.
- 2 - incorporate a principles-based guideline in the update of the GFSM and develop a separate, comprehensive practical implementation guide on the BSA applied to GFS.
- 3 - maintain the current guidance described in the Annex to Chapter 4 of the *GFSM 2014*.

The Task Team recommended Option 2. Respondents' views are summarized in the chart below.



Respondents strongly supported the recommended Option 2, to include in the GFSM only conceptual guidance on Balance Sheet Analysis (BSA), with more detailed practical guidance developed separately outside of the GFS. The preferred approach was viewed as allowing implementation guidance to evolve over time and respond to user needs while preserving the GFSM's role as a conceptual framework.

Do you agree that the development of guidance on the implementation of the GFS BSA should initially focus on the general government sector before gradual expansion to the broader public sector, as resources allow? Most respondents agreed that implementation guidance on BSA should initially focus on the general government sector, with broader public sector coverage developed gradually as resources permit. The rationale was that general government data are generally more available and more directly relevant to fiscal policy analysis. At the same time, some respondents noted that significant fiscal risks may arise from public corporations and suggested that expansion to the public sector should

remain an important longer-term objective. Overall, respondents favored a phased and pragmatic implementation strategy.

Do you agree with the proposed definition of the BSA framework, which comprises key fiscal indicators derived from the balance sheet, the possible use of balance sheets for intertemporal analysis or projections, and the whom-to-whom analysis? Respondents generally agreed with the proposed definition of the BSA framework, including balance-sheet-based indicators, intertemporal analysis, and whom-to-whom analysis. Many viewed these elements as complementary components of a broader analytical approach to assessing fiscal sustainability, risks, and financial relationships. Several respondents emphasized that implementation may need to proceed gradually, with countries initially focusing on simpler components before expanding to more resource-intensive forms of analysis. Overall, the proposed framework was seen as comprehensive and analytically useful.

Do you agree with the proposed practical guidance to elaborate further on the following areas (i) integration of fiscal indicators for both flows and stocks within the GFS framework, (ii) key fiscal indicators derived from the balance sheet, (iii) use of balance sheet for intertemporal analysis and its analytical applications, and (iv) whom-to-whom analysis? Respondents broadly supported the proposed areas for practical guidance, including integration of stock and flow information, development of key balance-sheet indicators, intertemporal analysis, and whom-to-whom analysis. Many considered these elements essential for making balance sheet information more useful for policy analysis, fiscal risk assessment, and decision-making. Respondents emphasized the value of practical examples, implementation advice, and methodological tools. Several respondents also highlighted the importance of ensuring that guidance remains adaptable to different levels of data availability and institutional capacity.

Do you have any other suggestions for advancing the implementation and use of the BSA within GFS? Respondents suggested a range of measures to support broader adoption of BSA, including phased implementation strategies, practical examples, standardized indicators, improved data quality, better counterparty information, and stronger links between BSA and fiscal risk analysis. Many recommended developing tools that would help countries integrate balance-sheet information into policymaking and fiscal sustainability assessments. Capacity development, methodological support, and sharing of country experiences were also frequently identified as important factors in facilitating implementation and encouraging wider use of balance sheet analysis within the GFS framework.