



CAMBODIA

REPORT ON THE OBSERVANCE OF STANDARDS AND CODES—DATA MODULE

March 2026

This Report on the Observance of Standards and Codes—Data Module for Cambodia was prepared by a staff team of the International Monetary Fund as background documentation for the periodic consultation with the member country. It is based on the information available at the time it was completed in September 2025. The views expressed in this document are those of the staff team and do not necessarily reflect the views of the government of Cambodia or the Executive Board of the IMF.

The Detailed Assessments Using the Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF) and the Response of the Authorities to this report are also included.

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CAMBODIA

REPORT ON THE OBSERVANCE OF STANDARDS AND CODES—DATA MODULE VOLUME I

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VOLUME I: STAFF ASSESSMENT AND PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS

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This report is based on information provided prior to and during a mission conducted during September 8–12, 2025, as well as on a survey of users and publicly available information. The mission team was led by Mr. Paul Austin (Division Chief, IMF Statistics Department) and comprised Mr. Barra Casey (Senior Economist, Price Statistics), Ms. Bidisha Das (Economist, Monetary and Financial Statistics), Ms. Erin Nephew (Senior Economist, External Sector Statistics), Mr. Emmanuel Ramathuba (Senior Economist, Government Finance and Public Sector Debt Statistics), Mr. Joseph St. Lawrence (Senior Economist, National Accounts Statistics), and Ms. Laila Boufraine (logistical support). Ms. Santaa Tsogtsaikhan provided assistance in preparing this report.

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Glossary

<i>2008 SNA</i>	<i>System of National Accounts, 2008</i>
<i>2025 SNA</i>	<i>System of National Accounts, 2025</i>
BOP	Balance of Payments
<i>BMP6</i>	<i>Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, Sixth Edition</i>
<i>BMP7</i>	<i>Integrated Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, Seventh Edition</i>
COFOG	Classification of Functions of Government
COICOP	Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose
DSBB	Dissemination Standards Bulletin Board
DQAF	Data Quality Assessment Framework
ESS	External Sector Statistics
GFS	Government Finance Statistics
<i>GFSM 1986</i>	<i>A Manual on Government Finance Statistics, 1986</i>
<i>GFSM 2001</i>	<i>Government Finance Statistics Manual, 2001</i>
<i>GFSM 2014</i>	<i>Government Finance Statistics Manual, 2014</i>
IIP	International Investment Position
<i>ISIC</i>	<i>International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities</i>
<i>MFSM 2000</i>	<i>Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual 2000</i>
MEF	Ministry of Economy and Finance
NA	National Accounts
NBC	National Bank of Cambodia
NIS	National Institute of Statistics
NSDP	National Summary Data Page
ODC	Other Depository Corporations
PAE	Public Administration Establishment
<i>PSDSG 2013</i>	<i>Public Sector Debt Statistics Guide: For Compilers and Users 2013</i>
ROSC	Report on the Observance of Standards and Codes
SDDS	Special Data Dissemination Standard

OVERALL ASSESSMENT

1. This Report on the Observance of Standards and Codes—Data Module (Data ROSC) assesses the quality of Cambodia’s key macroeconomic statistics programs. The assessment is based on the 2025 pilot version of the IMF’s Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF) and covers the national accounts, consumer price index, government finance, public sector debt, monetary and financial, balance of payments, and international investment position statistics. The National Institute of Statistics (NIS) is responsible for national accounts and price statistics. The Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) is responsible for government finance and public sector debt statistics. The National Bank of Cambodia (NBC) is responsible for monetary and financial, balance of payments, and international investment position statistics.
2. Macroeconomic statistics in Cambodia fall short in observing internationally recognized data dissemination standards—18 of 21 data categories do not meet the coverage, periodicity, or timeliness requirements of the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS), the IMF’s second highest data dissemination standard. Cambodia is not an SDDS subscriber, but has been a participant of the Enhanced General Data Dissemination System (E-GDDS) with a National Summary Data Page (NSDP) since May 2018. Updating the NSDP is an issue across several data categories. Appendix I compares Cambodia’s current dissemination practices with the SDDS requirements.
3. Based on the 2025 pilot version of the DQAF, the remainder of this section summarizes the mission’s main findings, which are presented for each agency for the first two dimensions of quality, and across six datasets for the remaining four dimensions (DQAF dimensions defined in Appendix II).
4. Cambodia’s Statistics Act provides a strong legal foundation for official statistics, with the recent Sub-Decree (March 2025) designating the National Institute of Statistics (NIS) as a National Public Administration Establishment (PAE) marking a major step forward. Weak institutional arrangements and resource adequacy at NIS have persistently constrained statistical development. The draft Institutional Development Plan (2025–2029) aims to implement reforms to the NIS’ governance, structure, data infrastructure and facilities, human resources framework, quality assurance, budgeting and capital investments. Government finance statistics (GFS) and public sector debt statistics (PSDS) are underpinned by solid legal and administrative frameworks and a supportive technological base. The NBC operates under a legal and institutional framework that supports professional independence and impartiality in producing monetary, financial, and external sector statistics. However, there is scope for strengthening data integrity safeguards, transparency practices and regular review of resource use.
5. Assurances of integrity could be strengthened across all three agencies. A stronger quality assurance framework is needed to ensure data produced by the NIS are fit for policy use. The NIS also does not currently have an ethics policy beyond the civil service code of conduct. Across all agencies, there is room for more timely and comprehensive documentation of key methodological changes and revisions which impair data transparency. Data users should be informed in advance of key changes in methodology. The MEF does not publish the terms and conditions under which GFS

and PSDS are collected, compiled and disseminated. An upgrade of the already strong ethics policy at the NBC would be useful, not least to address data privacy and governance.

6. The alignment of Cambodia's macroeconomic statistics with international statistical standards across domains is mixed. The NIS national accounts program follows internationally recommended concepts and definitions but with deviations from international statistical standards in aspects such as statistical output, scope, classifications, and methods. The CPI has significant departures from the international standards. Notably, its weights are more than twenty years old and are no longer representative of household expenditures in Cambodia. GFS compiled by the MEF also show deviations. Specifically, the basis for recording is yet to shift to full accruals, and the *Government Finance Statistics Manual 2014 (GFSM 2014)* framework is not yet adopted in national fiscal presentations. The scope of Cambodia's PSDS is limited to budgetary central government including public guaranteed debt. Under Cambodia's Public Financial System Law, local governments, extrabudgetary units, and State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) cannot borrow without MEF's guarantee. While including guaranteed debt in risk-based metrics is a pragmatic approach for low-income countries, comprehensive public disclosure of such debt, particularly for SOEs is lacking in Cambodia. The NBC's monetary and financial statistics (MFS) are broadly aligned with the latest methodological standards. Classifications, sectoring, and presentations are consistently applied through the use of the IMF's Standardized Report Forms (SRFs). However, there is scope to improve the valuation practices. The NBC's balance of payments (BOP) and international investment position (IIP) statistics are aligned to the IMF's *Balance of Payments Manual, sixth edition (BPM6)*.¹

7. There is scope for strengthening data accuracy and reliability across the six datasets. The adequacy of source data varies across statistical outputs. Critical gaps exist for the CPI (outdated weights, representativeness of price collection points and of the basket which lack key services), and the infrequent compilation of supply and use tables (SUTs) undermine quality assurances for national accounts estimates. Both GFS and PSDS would benefit from expanded data sources. This would enable the compilation of quarterly general government operations (GGO) for GFS; improve revenue and expenditure classifications; and broaden debt instrument coverage to include arrears and disclosure of other contingent liabilities associated with PPPs. MFS source data are adequate and consistent, particularly for central bank and other depository corporations (ODCs), although gaps persist in the coverage of other financial corporations (OFCs). Strengthening source data for direct investment (including on public private partnerships, PPPs), goods and some services, and external debt in the BOP/IIP would enhance data accuracy. For both MFS and BOP/IIP programs, the NBC should also strengthen quality assurance practices, including through more automated validation and reconciliation processes, and systematic analysis of revisions. Expanding time series and increasing data granularity are among recommended improvements for most datasets.

8. Cambodia's official statistics are broadly serviceable, although timely dissemination of core datasets requires improvements in most areas. Quarterly GDP is not compiled, and the CPI

¹ The IMF introduced the seventh edition of the Manual (*BPM7*) in 2025.

timeliness—as assessed by online dissemination—experiences long lags. Consistency checks for the national accounts are constrained by the lack of institutional sector accounts and financial balance sheets, and by infrequent SUTs. While there have been improvements in GFS time series and sector coverage of annual data, serviceability would benefit from expanded balance sheet reporting, integrated flow-stock statements, inclusion of COFOG classification and more frequent publication of GGO data. BOP/IIP meet the periodicity and timeliness requirements of the SDDS. Gaps remain in data validation/reconciliation across the macroeconomic statistics assessed.

9. While users readily access Cambodia’s official statistics through regular online publications of the NIS, MEF, and NBC the availability of more data in machine-readable formats would be a key step forward. While Khmer-language sites upload data promptly, English versions often lag behind—for instance, E-GDDS metadata and the NSDP are not updated as required. The MEF publishes a quarterly *Public Debt Statistical Bulletin* on its webpage with relevant contact details; for other datasets, contact information for user queries is less visible. MFS metadata lacks comprehensive sources and methods document and deviations from international standards are not disclosed. Across all agencies, structured user consultations and regular outreach activities, such as training sessions and explanatory materials, would foster user engagement.

10. The remainder of this document is structured as follows. Section II provides a summary assessment by agency and dataset, based on a four-point rating scale; and Section III presents the IMF staff priority recommendations. Appendix I summarizes practices compared to the SDDS requirements; appendix II provides definitions of the DQAF dimensions and ratings; and appendix III summarizes data user views. Volume II provides the detailed DQAF assessment with some additional recommendations to strengthen the different statistical programs. Volume III contains the authorities’ response to this report.

ASSESSMENT BY AGENCY AND DATASET

11. Assessments of the legal and institutional environment (prerequisites of data quality) and the assurances of integrity (Dimensions “1” and “2”) are presented by institution, while the assessment of alignment with international statistical standards, accuracy and reliability, serviceability, and accessibility (Dimensions “3” to “6”) are presented by statistical domain.²

12. Assessments for the six macroeconomic datasets—national accounts, CPI, GFS, PSDS, MFS, and external sector statistics (BOP/IIP)—were conducted using the 2025 pilot version of the IMF DQAF framework. The results are presented at the level of the DQAF elements using a four-point rating scale: observed (O), largely observed (LO), largely not observed (LNO) and not observed (NO) (Table 1).

² For each dimension, the DQAF identifies a set of elements of international best practice. The assessments use a structured questionnaire to enumerate the indicators associated with each element; and the responses are used to determine the ratings at the element level.

Table 1. Cambodia: Data Quality Assessment Framework—Summary Results

Institutions Dimensions/Elements			
	NIS	MEF	NBC
1. Legal and Institutional Environment	LO	LO	LO
1.1 Legal environment	LO	LO	O
1.2 Independence of the National Statistical System	LO	LO	O
1.3 Coordinating the National Statistical System	LNO	LNO	LO
1.4 Assuring statistical confidentiality and data security	LO	LNO	LO
1.5 Response burden is minimized	LO	LO	O
1.6 Adequacy of human resources	LNO	LNO	LO
1.7 Adequacy of information technology resources	LNO	LO	LO
1.8 Adequacy of physical infrastructure	LNO	O	O
1.9 Cost-effectiveness practices	LNO	LO	LO
1.10 Relevance and quality management practices	LO	LNO	LO
2. Assurances of integrity	LNO	LO	LO
2.1 Institutional Integrity	LO	LO	O
2.2 Transparency	LNO	LNO	LNO
2.3 Ethical standards	LNO	O	O

Table 1. Cambodia: Data Quality Assessment Framework—Summary Results (concluded)

Dimensions/Elements	Datasets					
	National Accounts	Consumer Price Index	Government Finance Statistics	Public Sector Debt Statistics	Monetary and Financial Statistics	External Sector Statistics
3. Alignment with international statistical standards	LO	LNO	LNO	LO	LO	LO
3.1 Concepts and definitions	LO	LNO	O	LO	LO	LO
3.2 Accounting rules	LO	LNO	LNO	LO	LO	O
3.3 Methods	LNO	-	LO	NO	-	LNO
3.4 Classifications	O	LNO	LNO	O	O	O
3.5 Scope of statistical output	LNO	LNO	LNO	LO	O	LO
4. Accuracy and reliability	LO	LNO	LO	LO	LO	LO
4.1 Source data are adequate to ensure accuracy and reliability	LO	LNO	LO	LO	O	LO
4.2 Accuracy of source data is regularly assessed	LO	LO	LO	O	O	LO
4.3 Rigorous statistical techniques are used for modeling, estimation, imputation, editing and valuation	LO	LNO	O	LO	LO	LO
4.4 Rigorous quality assurance practices are employed	O	LNO	LO	O	LNO	LO
4.5 Revisions analysis and reliability monitoring is conducted	LO	LNO	NO	LNO	LO	O
5. Serviceability	LO	LNO	LO	LO	O	O
5.1 Periodicity	LO	O	LNO	LO	O	O
5.2 Timeliness	LO	LNO	LO	LO	O	O
5.3 Data consistency	LO	LNO	LO	LNO	LO	O
5.4 Correction and revision policy and practice	LO	NO	LO	LNO	LO	O
6. Accessibility	LNO	LNO	LO	LO	LO	O
6.1 Data accessibility	LNO	LNO	LO	LO	LO	O
6.2 Metadata accessibility	LO	NO	LO	LO	NO	O
6.3 Assistance to users	LNO	NO	LO	LO	O	O

Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF

Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)

STAFF'S PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS

13. Based on the assessment of statistical practices—as presented in the Detailed Assessments (Volume II), discussions with the data producing agencies, and responses from data users (Appendix III), the mission has developed a set of priority recommendations. These are designed to increase Cambodia's adherence to internationally accepted standards, and their implementation would, in the mission's view, enhance the analytical usefulness of the data.

A. Overarching Priority Recommendations

- Implement and strengthen intra- and inter-agency data sharing protocols to ensure access to source data needed to improve data accuracy, periodicity and/or timeliness.
- Develop systematic and transparent revision policies and undertake analyses of revisions to inform improvements to data quality.
- Develop a transition plan to address remaining gaps to prepare for SDDS subscription.
- Adopt standardized, machine-readable dissemination formats (ideally following the SDMX standard) to facilitate automated data usage in research, modeling, and policy analysis.

B. Priority Recommendations (Institutional)

Legal and Institutional Environment

*National Institute of Statistics*³

- Increase its independence in staffing and resource allocation decisions to augment data collection and dissemination efforts.
- Implement a competency-based HR framework to guide recruitment, promotion, training and performance evaluation of staff.
- Formalize relationships with data providers through memoranda of understanding (MOUs) to support better source data access (prioritizing engagement with the General Department of Taxation to enable access to tax data for estimating quarterly GDP).
- Implement a centralized data platform and robust enterprise systems for secure data storage,

³ These recommendations are included in the draft Institutional Development Plan (August 2025) which outlines a strategic roadmap for the NIS over the period 2025–2029. They also draw on the IMF Statistics Department's diagnostic mission in September 2024. The mission focused on assessing the legal and institutional arrangements under which the NIS operates as well as assurances of integrity (using the framework of DQAF 1 and 2). Five key recommendations were presented to the authorities.

data sharing, and backup protocols.

- Formalize internal audit and outreach practices to strengthen allocation of resources and ensure relevance of data products.
- Strengthen medium-term planning to ensure efficient allocation of resources.

Ministry of Economy and Finance

- Establish formal data-sharing protocols—with clear timelines and validation procedures—to institutionalize regular data sharing within MEF and with key agencies such as the NBC and NIS.
- Continue investing in secure and agile ICT infrastructure to support intra- and inter-agency data sharing in a protected and interoperable environment.
- Expand staff capacity through targeted training and a professional career program to build a resilient team capable of delivering high-quality, comprehensive GFS and PSDS.
- Adopt internationally recognized quality assurance frameworks such as the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) and establish mechanisms for user consultation and feedback monitoring to support continuous improvement.

National Bank of Cambodia

- Modernize IT systems and ensure ICT resources are commensurate with statistical needs through a medium-term plan geared towards software upgrades, automated validation, and sustainable technical support.
- Operationalize inter-agency data sharing with service-level agreements for regular exchanges, using secure digital transmission channels such as APIs or other automated interfaces.

Assurances of Integrity

National Institute of Statistics

- Pre-announce key changes in methodology, source data and statistical techniques for its national accounts and price statistics programs.
- Establish a comprehensive quality assurance strategy and an actionable framework to implement it across the NIS.
- Develop a NIS-specific code of ethics for staff and include provisions on ethical responsibilities pertaining to statistical methods, processing and dissemination.
- The practice of government access to statistics prior to their release is publicized.

- Develop clear and documented standards for safeguarding against data misuse by staff and ensuring data confidentiality.

Ministry of Economy and Finance

- Publish the terms and conditions (including relevant legal provisions) governing the collection, compilation, and dissemination of GFS and PSDS data on the MEF website and in relevant statistical reports and bulletins.

National Bank of Cambodia

- Implement a data integrity policy for data compilers, clarifying permitted uses, retention, data-sharing protocols, and breach procedures, and make it publicly available to strengthen trust and transparency.
- Provide systematic advance notice of methodological or source data changes.
- Update the ethics policy to address emerging issues in data and statistics—covering phishing and cybersecurity, responsible use of AI without compromising confidential and market sensitive data of the central bank, and conflicts of interest with external providers—and require regular staff reaffirmation of ethical commitments.

C. Priority Recommendations (By Dataset)

NAS: Alignment with International Statistical Standards

- Expand scope to include quarterly GDP, financial flow accounts, balance sheet accounts, and SUTs.
- Increase frequency of GDP benchmarking to every five years.

NAS: Accuracy and Reliability

- Formalize access to detailed quarterly tax data to strengthen source data availability.
- Strengthen other source data inputs, including those for expenditure-based GDP estimates.

NAS: Serviceability

- Compile and publish quarterly GDP estimates.⁴
- Improve timeliness of release data to the public, including by timely updates to the NIS website.

NAS: Accessibility

- Strengthen data accessibility to the general public and to specialized users.
- Upgrade the functionality of the NIS website to provide better and more timely access to data, metadata, analysis, release schedules, and contact information.

CPI: Alignment with International Statistical Standards

- Include all relevant household expenditure transactions in the scope of the CPI, including online purchases (if applicable).
- Expand coverage to include services not included or sparsely covered, e.g., telecommunication services, insurance services, air travel, recreational goods and services, and accommodation and catering services.
- Include household expenditure on new digital products e.g., streaming services, ride share apps, cloud services etc.
- If the Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey (SES) of Cambodia does not provide the necessary coverage of household expenditure, identify alternative data sources that can be used for the calculation of the CPI weights.
- Clearly document and provide a justification for the exclusions from CPI scope.

CPI: Accuracy and Reliability

- Update the expenditure weights used for the CPI. The current weights were taken from the Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey (SES) 2004.
- Develop a matrix of regional weights to allow for the aggregation of provincial CPIs to the national CPI.

⁴ Access to quarterly tax data is critical to developing a robust quarterly national accounts program. Should institutional impediments to tax data access slow the development of quarterly GDP estimates, the authorities are strongly encouraged to develop high frequency indicators to enable more timely economic analysis and policy responses.

- Use price information collected in provinces outside Phnom Penh to compile the national CPI.
- Update the sample of outlets that are used for price collection to include new outlets and markets, discount stores and online stores.
- Use administrative data sources, where appropriate, for the collection of price information e.g., electricity prices.
- Discontinue the carry-forward method for the imputation of temporarily missing products (non-seasonal) which introduces a bias into the CPI. Overall or targeted mean imputation methods are recommended.⁵
- Impute missing prices for seasonal products, during the out-of-season period.
- Use the short-term price relative approach (rather than the long-term price relative) to allow for more accurate imputation of prices and adjustment for quality change.
- Where relevant, and to the extent possible, apply implicit or explicit quality change adjustments when a variety becomes permanently missing.

CPI: Serviceability

- Publish the CPI release on the NIS website in a timely manner.⁶
- Provide users with consistent CPI data over a medium-to-long horizon e.g., 10 years.
- Publish explanations for unusual changes in the CPI or breaks and discontinuities in the component time series.

CPI: Accessibility

- Provide CPI data to all users simultaneously. While key users, such as the MEF and NBC, are provided with the data in a timely manner, other users are required to wait for public dissemination of the data or request the data directly from the NIS.

⁵ Overall mean imputation uses the price relatives of all matched varieties in the relevant elementary index to impute the price for the missing variety. Targeted mean imputation uses the price relatives of a subset of matched varieties within the relevant elementary index to impute the price for the missing variety.

⁶ For more recent CPI data, there is basic information on the headline inflation rate published on the NIS website under the “Key Figures” section. However, as of September 2025, the most recent CPI release on the website (in English) was for the reference period April 2024.

- Maintain a schedule that announces release dates for the CPI at least three months in advance.
- Disseminate comprehensive metadata, including information on concepts, definitions, classifications, compilation methods, statistical techniques, and other relevant methodological aspects and procedures.
- Disseminate CPI data in user-friendly formats, e.g., csv files, and ensure that the most recent CPI data are included on CamStat i.e., electronic database for NIS datasets.

GFS: Alignment with International Statistical Standards

- Publish more detailed GFS transition table mapping the Table of Government Financial Operations (TOFE) to GFSM 2014 format.
- Complete SOE sectorization as a prerequisite to expanding GFS-sector coverage to the public sector.
- Publish COFOG data starting with budgetary central government sector.
- Gradually transition toward full accrual accounting.

GFS: Accuracy and Reliability

- Improve the granularity of source data (i.e., NFA and subsidies) and strengthen the accuracy of GFS classification.
- Develop estimation methodologies for PAEs to produce high frequency (monthly/ quarterly) general government GFS.
- Implement a systematic stock-flow reconciliation process, inclusive of other economic flows (OEFs).

GFS: Serviceability

- In coordination with NBC, improve timeliness of reporting general government fiscal data to the NSDP, to meet IMF's data dissemination standards.
- Develop and publish a revisions policy, supported by comprehensive documentation to ensure transparency and consistency in data updates.

GFS: Accessibility

- Establish a publicly accessible GFS database featuring monthly, quarterly, and annual time series, equipped with dashboards and machine-readable download formats (e.g., CSV, SDMX).
- Publish the documented sources and compilation methods to strengthen metadata transparency.

PSDS: Alignment with International Statistical Standards

- Expand sector coverage to public sector and instrument coverage to include other accounts payable (including arrears), nonguaranteed SOE debt, and PPP-related liabilities.
- Establish a monitoring system and publish PPP-related obligations and contingent liabilities outside budgetary central government as an additional annex / chapter in the Debt Bulletin.

PSDS: Accuracy and Reliability

- Formalize periodic revision studies to improve data quality and transparency.
- Integrate systematic stock–flow reconciliations and structured supplementary data collections into PSDS compilation procedures.

PSDS: Serviceability

- Compile and publish reconciliation tables for stock-flow adjustments and fiscal balance-to-debt changes.
- Develop and publish a formal PSDS revision policy to guide users and compilers in reporting and classifying revisions.

PSDS: Accessibility

- Introduce and adhere to a public release calendar to inform users when the *Debt Bulletin* will be published on the MEF website. Including the next release date when publishing a bulletin could be an initial step.
- Develop and publish comprehensive metadata covering sources and methods aligned to the PSDS Guide.

MFS: Alignment with International Statistical Standards

- Expand institutional coverage of MFS to the remaining OFCs such as rural credit institutions and leasing companies.
- Strengthen valuation practices by developing and applying fair-value estimation methods for instruments not actively traded.

MFS: Accuracy and Reliability:

- Develop automated source data validations in Excel-based tables and the bank reporting IT system, embedding vertical checks and automated summations to reduce manual errors.
- Establish a data handling guide to standardize quality assurances across all MFS staff—covering

inter-sectoral cross-checks (central bank, ODCs, OFCs), plausibility tests, follow-up with reporters and recording corrective actions.

MFS: Serviceability

- Include explanatory notes in the MFS bulletin to document breaks in series and unusual movements due to changes in methodology or coverage, when applicable.

MFS: Accessibility

- Publish and regularly update a source and methods document detailing MFS survey coverage and any deviations from international standards in sectoring, classification, or valuation.
- Ensure metadata are regularly updated in international databases (Dissemination Standards Bulletin Board/IMF Data) to strengthen transparency and international comparability.
- Modernize dissemination practices by enabling CSV downloads, developing an API for real-time machine-readable access, and progressively introducing an interactive dashboard to view key aggregates such as net foreign assets and broad money.

BOP/IIP: Alignment with International Statistical Standards

- Improve coverage of imports.
- Record only the services provided for goods received without ownership change in the services account and exclude the goods' value from the BOP.
- To improve the coverage of direct investment, adopt a differentiated approach to its measurement, depending on the type of inward direct investment company. In particular, for direct investment companies registered under the Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC), their data should be supplemented with a targeted survey of major direct investment companies.
- Strengthen IIP coverage of foreign assets and liabilities of resident non-financial corporations.

BOP/IIP: Accuracy and Reliability

- Update the travel services model, including by segmenting arrival data to enhance the accuracy of length of stay and average expenditure estimates.
- Introduce new travel surveys to enhance services estimates.
- Collect source data on public-private partnerships to improve coverage of direct investment.

BOP/IIP: Serviceability (no additional recommendations)***BOP/IIP: Accessibility***

- Disseminate data using API and csv formats.
- Publish comprehensive metadata regularly.
- Broaden dissemination formats and offer analytical tools for users.
- Publish a more visible advance release calendar.

Appendix I. Cambodia's Practices Compared to the SDDS

Cambodia has been a participant in the Enhanced General Data Dissemination System (e-GDDS) with a National Summary Data Page (NSDP) since May 30, 2018. While the authorities have not yet indicated interest in advancing to the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS), a significant improvement in current performance under the e-GDDS and the compilation of additional data categories would be the critical steps towards SDDS subscription. The mission recommends a transition plan to fulfill the requirements for the noncompliant data categories within 3-5 years.

1. The SDDS has five main sectoral groupings that guide IMF member countries in disseminating economic and financial data: real sector, fiscal sector, financial sector, external sector, and socio-demographic data. Within these five broad groups, the SDDS specifies 21 more detailed data categories that countries are expected to disseminate.
2. The SDDS prescribes standards for the coverage, periodicity and timeliness of 21 data categories. For coverage, Cambodia does not meet the requirements for a production index, producer price index, general government operations, international reserves and foreign currency liquidity, and external debt statistics—these data categories are either not compiled or compiled with coverage gaps. There are shortfalls in periodicity for 8 data categories (including the lack of quarterly GDP estimates), and 8 data categories do not meet the timeliness prescribed under the SDDS. A thorough gap analysis is constrained by lags in updating websites, including to provide releases in English and by the authorities viewing timeliness (in some cases) by internal release rather than public dissemination. The dissemination of—and adherence to—advance release calendars are among other key elements of the SDDS.
3. Cambodia is among six of eleven countries that have not yet subscribed to the SDDS.¹

¹ The five SDDS-subscribing ASEAN countries are Indonesia, Malaysia, The Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand.

Table 1. Cambodia: Dissemination Practice Vis-à-Vis SDDS Requirements

Table 1. Cambodia: Dissemination Practice Vis-à-Vis SDDS Requirements								
SDDS Data Category	Cambodia's Dissemination Practices	e-GDDS Recommendati ons	SDDS Requireme nts	Cambodia's Disseminati on Practices	e-GDDS Recommend ations	SDDS Requiremen ts	SDDS Requirements	
	Periodicity			Timeliness			Meets Coverage	Meets SDDS
Real Sector								
National Accounts (GDP)	A	Q	Q	6M	1Q	1Q	Yes	No, QGDP not compiled
Production Index	N/A	M	M	N/A		6W (1M encouraged)	No	No, not compiled
Labor Market- Employment	A	A	Q	12M		1Q	Yes	No, quarterly data is needed
Labor Market- Unemployment	A	A	Q	12M		1Q	Yes	No, quarterly data is needed
Labor Market- Wages/earnings	A	A	Q	12M		1Q	Yes	No, quarterly data is needed
Consumer Price Index	M	M	M	2 M +	2M	1M	Yes	No
Producer Price Index	M	M	M	N/A		1M	N/A	No, not compiled
Fiscal Sector								
General Government Operations	N/A	A	A (Q encouraged)	N/A	3Q	2Q (1Q encouraged)	No	No, not compiled
Central Government Operations	M	Q	M	40D	1Q	1M	Yes	No
Central Government Gross Debt	Q	Q	Q	2M	2Q	1Q	No	Incomplete coverage
Financial Sector								
Depository Corporations Survey	M	M	M	2M	1Q	1M	Yes	No
Central Bank Survey	M	M	1M (1W encouraged)	1M	2M	2W (1W encouraged)	Yes	No
Interest Rates	M	M	D	2M		1D	Yes	No
Stock Market - Share Price Index	M	M	D	5W		1D	Yes	No
Financial Soundness Indicators (*)	Q	Q	Q	1Q	1Q	1Q	Yes	Yes
External Sector								
Balance of Payments	Q	Q	Q	1Q	1Q	1Q	Yes	Yes
Official Reserve Assets	M	M	1M (1W encouraged)	2M	1-3M (1M encouraged)	1W	Yes	No
Reserves template (**)	N/A	N/A	M (W encouraged)	N/A		1M (1W encouraged)	No, not compiled	No, not yet compiled
Merchandise Trade	M	M	M	2M	12W	8W (4-6W encouraged)	Yes	Yes
International Investment Position	Q	A	Q	1Q	3Q	1Q	Yes	Yes
External Debt	Q	Q	Q	1Q	2Q	1Q	No	No,(incomplete coverage)
Exchange Rates	M	D	D	5W		1D	Yes	No
Addendum								
Population	A	A	A	12M	3-6M for annual updates; 9-12M for census	3-6M for annual updates; 9-12M for census	Yes	Yes
(*) Financial Soundness Indicators are encouraged for e-GDDS and SDDS, and required for SDDS Plus.								
(**) Template on International Reserves and Foreign Currency Liquidity.								

Appendix II. The Data Quality Assessment Framework: Dimensions and Ratings Explained

1. **DIMENSION 1—Legal and Institutional Environment:** this dimension covers the legal basis, mandates, and institutional arrangements that enable a statistical system to operate credibly and effectively. It concerns the formal authority to collect, process, and disseminate statistics; the institutional protections for privacy, confidentiality and objectivity; and the coordination mechanisms that ensure consistency and compliance. A strong legal and institutional environment is a prerequisite for trust in official statistics and underpins all other dimensions of quality.
2. An “O” rating indicates that the institution has an excellent legal and institutional environment that supports statistical independence and good data governance; and is underpinned by a quality-oriented statistical infrastructure and adequate resources. LO, LNO and NO ratings assess the level of deviation from the O rating.
3. **DIMENSION 2—Assurances of Integrity:** this dimension refers to the institutional safeguards, professional standards, and operational practices that ensure statistics are produced impartially, free from external interference, and guided by objective, transparent, and scientifically grounded criteria. Integrity encompasses independence of judgment, unbiased methodological choices, transparent dissemination practices, fair treatment of staff, transparent correction of errors, and mechanisms to address misuse of statistical information.
4. An “O” rating indicates that the institution meets the highest standards on institutional integrity, transparency, and ethical standards. LO, LNO and NO ratings assess the level of deviation from the O rating.
5. **DIMENSION 3—Alignment with International Statistical Standards:** this dimension covers the idea that the methodological basis for producing statistics should be sound and that this is attained by following international standards, guidelines, and agreed practices. In application, this dimension is dataset-specific, reflecting differing methodologies for different datasets (for example, the 2008 SNA for national accounts and the sixth edition of the IMF’s Balance of Payments Manual for balance of payments).
6. An O rating reflects significant alignment with the statistical standard. Ratings at the lower end signal that the dataset is non-compliant with international compilation methodologies and adversely impacts international comparability and completeness of measurement.
7. **DIMENSION 4—Accuracy and Reliability:** for most users, accuracy and reliability are among the most sought-after attributes of data, with a primary concern being whether the data sufficiently portray reality at all stages of dissemination—from “flash” to “final” estimates. Thus, this dimension relates to the notion that source data and statistical techniques must be sound if data are to meet users’ needs; and that rigorous quality assurance practices.

8. An O rating reflects the adoption of best practices which should promote a high level of confidence in the dataset. Ratings at the lower end indicate that the dataset is non-compliant with best practices, and provide users with a signal to use with caution.

9. **DIMENSION 5—Serviceability:** this dimension assesses whether the data that are produced and disseminated are actually useful. It relates to the need to ensure that data are produced and disseminated in a timely manner, with an appropriate periodicity, provide relevant information on the subject field, are consistent internally and with other related datasets, and follow a predictable revisions policy.

10. An O rating reflects the adoption of best practices on “fitness for use” by users with regard to the frequency and timeliness of the dataset, its consistency and revisions policy. Ratings at the lower end indicate that the dataset is likely viewed as less relevant from users’ perspective.

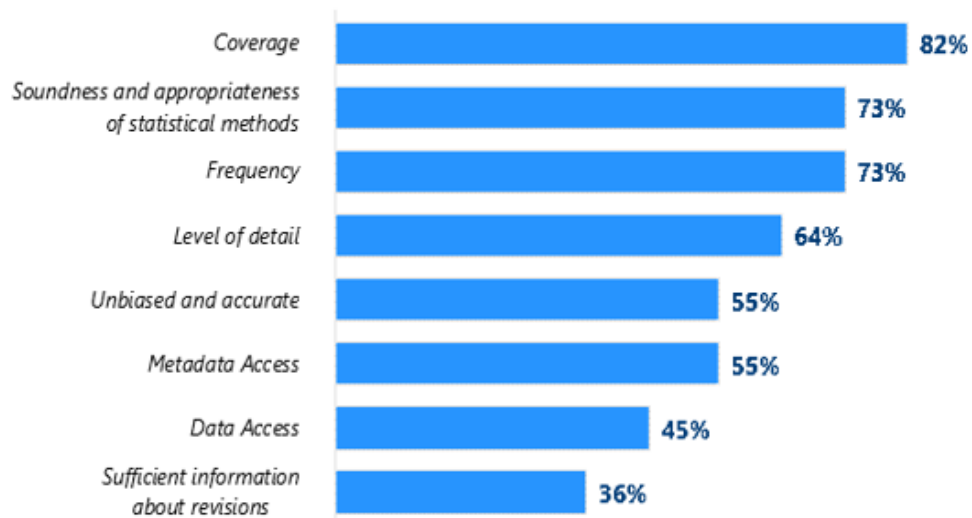
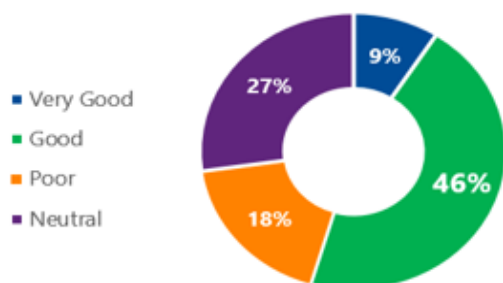
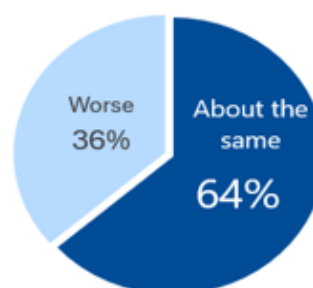
11. **DIMENSION 6—Accessibility:** users want understandable and clearly presented data in readily accessible formats, and need to know how data are put together as well as be able to count on prompt and knowledgeable support from data producers for their questions. Thus, this quality dimension relates to the need to ensure that clear data and metadata are easily available, and that assistance to users of data is adequate.

12. An O rating reflects the adoption of best practices on data dissemination, including user-friendly data release formats and comprehensiveness of metadata. Ratings at the lower end generally indicate a need for taking concrete steps to improve data transparency.

Appendix III. User's Views

The Data ROSC mission conducted a user survey of Cambodian macroeconomic statistics in July–August 2025, targeting 55 institutional users and receiving 11 responses—a 20 percent response rate. Respondents included representatives from academia, government, and international organizations. Over 70 percent reported using official statistics for policy planning, analysis, decision making, and international comparison, with national accounts and balance of payments as the most frequently used datasets. Users expressed concerns about data accessibility, fragmented sources, delayed or unreleased data, transparency of data revisions, and insufficient or outdated metadata. Suggestions for improvement focused on more timely data releases and better information on data sources, methodologies, and compilation practices. Only 36 percent of respondents considered the data quality to be very good or good.

1. The Data ROSC mission conducted a survey of users of the macroeconomic statistics in Cambodia during July–August 2025. The survey aimed to assess users' views on the coverage, quality, accessibility, and relevance of official statistics produced in Cambodia.
2. The survey received a 37 percent response rate from a diverse group of institutional users. The survey was distributed to 30 users identified by the Cambodian authorities and the IMF. Eleven responses were received mainly from representatives of academic institutions, government agencies, and international organizations.
3. Over 70 percent of the respondents reported using official statistics primarily for long-term policy planning, short-term analysis and decision making, and/or international comparison. Use of official statistics for general information, econometric modeling, and/or academic research are among the other uses reported. More than half of the respondents cited national accounts and balance of payments as the datasets regularly used. Price statistics were also cited; and a small percentage of users indicated using official statistics on international reserves, labor market, population census, agriculture, and SDGs.
4. User satisfaction was surveyed across a range of areas aligned to selected dimensions of data quality. The responses are presented in Figures 1 and 2.

Figure 1. User Satisfaction With Official Statistics**Figure 2. Quality of Cambodia's Official Statistics: User's Perception****Overall Quality****Quality Compared To Rest Of Region**

Users' Comments and Suggestions for Improvement

The survey elicited a range of constructive comments and suggestions from users, including:

- Data accessibility impeded by data spread across multiple sources and NIS website design lacking clarity on where the data files are stored.
- Data are sometimes produced but not released, or are released with significant lags.
- On metadata accessibility, users noted the paucity of information on sources and methods and compilation practices; and in cases where produced, the lack of comprehensiveness and of timely updates were key issues. One user opined that published explanatory information/analysis (and data) tend to focus only on positive outcomes, while sidestepping potentially sensitive topics.
- While labor market statistics are outside the scope of this data ROSC, users have noted the lack of updated and comprehensive labor market data—including on employment status, informality, and sectoral shifts. No official unemployment data are available. Labor market statistics are an important source for compiling and/or validating national accounts estimates.

On the survey question of improvements users would like, respondents identified the following:

- Timely data releases;
- Transparency in the methodologies adopted;
- Better designed website and more user-friendly dissemination formats (including for example greater access to freely available anonymized datasets); and
- More granular data (e.g., the lack of detailed data on inward foreign direct investment by industry and source country; and insufficient financial and gender-based data).



INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

CAMBODIA

REPORT ON THE OBSERVANCE OF STANDARDS AND CODES —DATA MODULE VOLUME II

February 26, 2026

VOLUME II: DETAILED ASSESSMENT USING THE DATA QUALITY ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

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This report is based on information provided prior to and during a mission conducted during September 8–12, 2025, as well as on a survey of users and publicly available information. The mission team was led by Mr. Paul Austin (Division Chief, IMF Statistics Department) and comprised Mr. Barra Casey (Senior Economist, Price Statistics), Ms. Bidisha Das (Economist, Monetary and Financial Statistics), Ms. Erin Nephew (Senior Economist, External Sector Statistics), Mr. Emmanuel Ramathuba (Senior Economist, Government Finance and Public Sector Debt Statistics), Mr. Joseph St. Lawrence (Senior Economist, National Accounts Statistics), and Ms. Laila Boufraine (logistical support). Ms. Santaa Tsogtsaikhan provided assistance in preparing this report.

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Glossary

<i>2008 SNA</i>	<i>System of National Accounts, 2008</i>
<i>2025 SNA</i>	<i>System of National Accounts, 2025</i>
BCG	Budgetary Central Government
BOP	Balance of Payments
<i>BMP6</i>	<i>Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, Sixth Edition</i>
<i>BMP7</i>	<i>Integrated Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, Seventh Edition</i>
COFOG	Classification of Functions of Government
COICOP	Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose
DSBB	Dissemination Standards Bulletin Board
DQAF	Data Quality Assessment Framework
ESS	External Sector Statistics
GFS	Government Finance Statistics
<i>GFSM 1986</i>	<i>A Manual on Government Finance Statistics, 1986</i>
<i>GFSM 2001</i>	<i>Government Finance Statistics Manual, 2001</i>
IIP	International Investment Position
<i>ISIC</i>	<i>International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities</i>
<i>MFSM 2000</i>	<i>Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual 2000</i>
MEF	Ministry of Economy and Finance
NA	National Accounts
NBC	National Bank of Cambodia
NIS	National Institute of Statistics
ODC	Other Depository Corporations
PAE	Public Administration Establishment
ROSC	Report on the Observance of Standards and Codes
SDDS	Special Data Dissemination Standard

DETAILED ASSESSMENT USING THE DATA QUALITY ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK (DQAF)

A. Legal and Institutional Environment

National Institute of Statistics (NIS) of Cambodia

1. Table 1 shows Cambodia's weighted score of 90 indicators assessing the legal and institutional environment of the NIS and its statistical programs. The indicators are grouped into ten (10) broad data quality indicator categories.

Table 1. Cambodia: NIS—Legal and Institutional Environment					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Legal and Institutional Environment					
Alignment with:					
Legal environment	5	5	0	10%	LO
Independence of the National Statistical System	4	4	0	20%	LO
Coordinating the national statistical system	10	10	0	15%	LNO
Assuring statistical confidentiality and data security	13	13	0	10%	LO
Response burden is minimized	3	3	0	10%	LO
Adequacy of human resources	17	16	1	15%	LNO
Adequacy of information technology resources	5	5	0	5%	LNO
Adequacy of physical infrastructure	3	3	0	5%	LNO
Cost-effectiveness practices	15	15	0	5%	LNO
Relevance and quality management practices	15	15	0	5%	LO
Overall Assessment	90	89	1	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendation

- To facilitate the current reforms aimed at improving the National Statistical System (NSS) in Cambodia, the NIS should focus on building a cadre of professional statisticians, methodologists, national accountants, and communications experts. This would help build a culture of statistical, accounting, and managerial rigor and improve dissemination practices in the agency given its new designation as a Public Administration Establishment (PAE). This reform would further improve the adoption of standards for data collection, compilation, analysis, integration, and dissemination across the statistical system and would also aid inter- and intra-agency collaboration and communication.

Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) Cambodia

2. Table 2 shows Cambodia's weighted score of 90 indicators assessing the legal and institutional environment of the MEF and its statistical programs (GFS and PSDS). The indicators are grouped into ten (10) broad data quality indicator categories.

Table 2. Cambodia: MEF—Legal and Institutional Environment					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Legal and Institutional Environment					
Alignment with:					
Legal environment	5	5	0	10%	LO
Independence of the National Statistical System	4	4	0	20%	LO
Coordinating the national statistical system	10	10	0	15%	LNO
Assuring statistical confidentiality and data security	13	12	1	10%	LNO
Response burden is minimized	3	1	2	10%	LO
Adequacy of human resources	17	14	3	15%	LNO
Adequacy of information technology resources	5	5	0	5%	LO
Adequacy of physical infrastructure	3	3	0	5%	O
Cost-effectiveness practices	15	15	0	5%	LO
Relevance and quality management practices	15	15	0	5%	LNO
Overall Assessment	90	84	6	100	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations

- Develop an internal Technical Compilation Guide for GFS to ensure business continuity and preserve institutional knowledge.
- Consider including in the new Public Debt Law (currently being drafted) explicit provisions to strengthen the legal basis for statistics, as follows:
 - Mandating that Cambodia's public debt reporting practices are fully aligned with international statistical standards and guidelines.
 - Requiring comprehensive debt reporting that covers the entire public sector, including SOEs, subnational governments, and other relevant public agencies.
 - Encouraging public disclosure of explicit contingent liabilities (both outstanding and new), such as government-guaranteed and non-guaranteed debt of SOEs, and other liabilities related to public-private partnerships (PPPs) and associated fiscal risks. While contingent liabilities are not debt per se, their disclosure is essential for debt transparency and debt sustainability analysis.

National Bank (NBC) of Cambodia

3. Table 3 shows Cambodia's weighted score of 90 indicators assessing the legal and institutional environment of the NBC and its statistical programs. The indicators are grouped into ten (10) broad data quality indicator categories.

Table 3. Cambodia: NBC—Legal and Institutional Environment					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Legal and Institutional Environment					
Alignment with:					
Legal environment	5	5	0	10%	O
Independence of the National Statistical System	4	4	0	20%	O
Coordinating the national statistical system	10	10	0	15%	LO
Assuring statistical confidentiality and data security	13	13	0	10%	LO
Response burden is minimized	3	3	0	10%	O
Adequacy of human resources	17	16	1	15%	LO
Adequacy of information technology resources	5	5	0	5%	LO
Adequacy of physical infrastructure	3	3	0	5%	O
Cost-effectiveness practices	15	15	0	5%	LO
Relevance and quality management practices	15	15	0	5%	LO
Overall Assessment	90	89	1	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendation

- Enhance staff skills by offering training in data science and upgraded IT systems to institutionalize quality assurance and better accommodate emerging data needs.

B. Assurances of Integrity

4. Table 4 shows Cambodia's weighted score of 30 indicators assessing the assurance of integrity for the NIS and its statistical programs. The indicators are grouped into three (3) broad data quality indicator categories.

National Institute of Statistics (NIS) of Cambodia

Table 4. Cambodia: NIS—Assurances of Integrity					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Assurances of Integrity					
Alignment with:					
Institutional integrity	8	8	0	24%	LO
Transparency	10	10	0	34%	LNO
Ethical standards	12	12	0	41%	LNO
Overall Assessment	30	30	0	100%	LNO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations

- While the statistical law mandates impartiality in the compilation of the CPI and national accounts, NIS should ensure that the required infrastructure is in place to ensure impartial practices.
- Ensure decisions about the timing, media, and other aspects of dissemination are based solely on statistical considerations, such as user needs, without external interference.
- Correct errors that have been identified as soon as possible and inform users about how the changes affect the published statistics.
- Recruit and promote staff based on relevant aptitude and/or expertise in the statistical domain e.g., CPI and national accounts.
- Promote a culture of professionalism in the workplace e.g., by professional accreditation of staff, peer review of statistical work, recognition of authors of methodological papers, and institutional support of professional bodies.

Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) of Cambodia

5. Table 5 shows Cambodia's weighted score of 30 indicators assessing the assurance of integrity for the MEF and its statistical programs (GFS and PSDS). The indicators are grouped into three (3) broad data quality indicator categories.

Table 5. Cambodia: MEF—Assurances of Integrity					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Assurances of Integrity					
Alignment with:					
Institutional integrity	8	8	0	25%	LO
Transparency	10	6	4	34%	LNO
Ethical standards	12	12	0	41%	O
Overall Assessment	30	26	4	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendation

- To clarify structure and accountability, publish an organizational chart and brief job descriptions of all teams involved in producing GFS/PSDS data.

National Bank of Cambodia (NBC) of Cambodia

6. Table 6 shows Cambodia's weighted score of 30 indicators assessing the assurance of integrity for the NBC and its statistical programs. The indicators are grouped into three (3) broad data quality indicator categories.

Table 6. Cambodia: NBC—Assurances of Integrity					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Assurances of Integrity					
Alignment with:					
Institutional integrity	8	8	0	24%	O
Transparency	10	6	4	34%	LNO
Ethical standards	12	12	0	41%	LO
Overall Assessment	30	26	4	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

C. National Accounts Statistics

Alignment with International Statistical Standards

7. Table 7 shows Cambodia's weighted score of 159 indicators assessing the alignment of SNA data to international statistical standards. The indicators are grouped into five (5) broad data quality indicator categories.

Table 7. Cambodia: Alignment with International Statistical Standards

Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
International Statistical Standards					
Alignment with:					
Concepts and definitions	42	42	0	30%	LO
Accounting rules	24	24	0	20%	LO
Methods	8	8	0	10%	LNO
Classifications	8	8	0	15%	O
Recommended scope of statistical output.	77	77	0	25%	LNO
Overall Assessment	159	159	0	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations

- Cambodia has chosen a 10-year cycle for GDP benchmarking, but this frequency should be increased to a 5-year cycle.
- Regular production of SUTs in addition to balance sheet accounts, sector accounts, financial accounts, and national accounts extensions should all be considered based on country priorities.

Accuracy and Reliability

8. Table 8 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 208 indicators assessing the accuracy and reliability of SNA data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into five (5) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 8. Cambodia: Accuracy and Reliability

Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Accessibility (SNA)					
Alignment with:					
Source data are adequate to ensure accuracy and reliability	120	109	11	50%	LO
Accuracy of source data is regularly assessed	6	6	0	10%	LO
Rigorous statistical techniques are used for modeling, estimation, imputation, Editing and valuation	56	50	6	20%	LO
Rigorous quality assurance practices are employed	17	15	2	10%	O

Table 8. Cambodia: Accuracy and Reliability (concluded)

Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Accessibility (SNA)					
Alignment with:					
Revisions analysis and reliability monitoring is conducted	9	9	0	10%	LO
Overall Assessment	208	189	19	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations

- Strengthen sectoring of business enterprises by the NIS would improve source data quality.
- Inventories are currently estimated as a residual. Direct estimation may be useful to verify this component of the accounts and potentially highlight weaknesses or improvements elsewhere.

Serviceability

9. Table 9 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 57 indicators assessing the serviceability of SNA data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into four (4) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 9. Cambodia: Serviceability

Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Serviceability (SNA)					
Alignment with:					
Periodicity	8	6	2	30%	LO
Timeliness	13	7	6	30%	LO
Data consistency	23	16	7	30%	LO
Correction and revision policy and practice	13	11	2	10%	LO
Overall Assessment	57	40	17	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations

- Timeliness is primarily a challenge from a dissemination rather than a production perspective. The NIS needs a reliable communication vehicle for data releases and to inform users of revisions, releases, and other important information.
- As above, improved access to detailed tax data would be beneficial under this category also as a tool for data confrontation.

Accessibility

10. Table 10 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 44 indicators assessing the accessibility of SNA data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into three (3) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 10. Cambodia: Accessibility					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Accessibility (SNA)					
Alignment with:					
Data accessibility	27	27	0	45%	LNO
Metadata accessibility	9	9	0	45%	LO
Assistance to users	8	8	0	10%	LNO
Overall Assessment	44	44	0	100%	LNO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations

- Address issues of accessibility of NIS data and metadata due to the outdated website and its lack of modern functionality (resumption of publications paused during COVID or modernization through an improved electronic dissemination vehicle).
- Strengthening access to modern IT tools (e.g., databases, electronic file transfer, etc.)
- A key weakness in the NIS is the lack of an email system. Communication is largely carried out via cell phone applications such as Telegram and WhatsApp which poses obvious issues related to institutional and international file transfers and data security.

D. Consumer Price Index (CPI)

Alignment with International Statistical Standards

11. Table 11 shows Cambodia's weighted score of 43 indicators assessing the alignment of CPI data to international statistical standards. The indicators are grouped into four (4) broad data quality indicator categories.

Table 11. Cambodia: Alignment with International Statistical Standards

Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
International Statistical Standards					
Alignment with:					
Concepts and definitions	15	15	0	30%	LNO
Accounting rules	7	7	0	30%	LNO
Recommended methods	-	-	-	-	-
Recommended classifications	4	4	0	15%	LNO
Recommended scope of statistical output	17	16	1	25%	LNO
Overall Assessment	43	42	1	100%	LNO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations

- At the next update of the CPI, use the latest version of the classification of individual consumption by purpose (COICOP) classification i.e., COICOP 2018.
- Compile and publish the CPI at a sufficient level of commodity and service detail to facilitate detailed analysis of price movements e.g., COICOP 3-digit or more detailed levels.
- Take account of discounts and promotions for consumer products if they are generally available to all households.
- For used goods, compute the weights following the new acquisitions approach i.e., purchases minus disposals.

Accuracy and Reliability

12. Table 12 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 75 indicators assessing the accuracy and reliability of CPI data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into five (5) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 12. Cambodia: Accuracy and Reliability

Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. Assessed	Recs. not Relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Accuracy and reliability					
Alignment with:					
Source data are adequate to ensure accuracy and reliability	35	35	0	50%	LNO
Accuracy of source data is regularly assessed	6	6	0	10%	LO
Rigorous statistical techniques are used for modeling, estimation, imputation, editing and valuation	24	24	0	20%	LNO
Rigorous quality assurance practices are employed	5	5	0	10%	LNO
Revisions analysis and reliability monitoring is conducted	5	5	0	10%	LNO
Overall Assessment	75	75	0	100%	LNO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations

- Maintain metadata on the extent of missing prices, including notes on methodological techniques for their treatment.
- Routinely assess price changes against external sources e.g., media, representative bodies, third party indices.
- Hold periodic consultations with consumers and/or businesses to identify new products and market trends that affect CPI coverage.
- Carry out studies periodically on long-term price trends to identify potential systematic biases e.g., persistent downward movement of index for clothing and footwear, persistent flat index for communications.
- Use the findings from these studies to guide changes to CPI compilation methods.
- Document the processes used to update the CPI, i.e., weights and basket, to include descriptions of sampling, collection, and validation procedures, index weights and construction, treatment of hard to measure items etc.

Serviceability

13. Table 13 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 12 indicators assessing the serviceability of CPI data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into four (4) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 13. Cambodia: Serviceability

Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Serviceability					
Alignment with:					
Periodicity	1	1	0	30%	O
Timeliness	1	1	0	30%	LNO
Data consistency	6	5	1	30%	LNO
Correction and revision policy and practice	4	4	0	10%	NO
Overall Assessment	12	11	1	100%	LNO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations

- For consistency in aggregations, ensure that product weights sum to higher-level aggregate weights.
- At the next CPI update, ensure that regional weights sum to national-level weights.
- Develop and publish a predetermined and stable revisions policy, ensuring errors are corrected when observed.
- Monitor the frequency of data errors and ensure that users are informed when errors are corrected.

Accessibility

14. Table 14 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 44 indicators assessing the accessibility of CPI data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into three (3) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 14. Cambodia: Accessibility

Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Accessibility					
Alignment with:					
Data accessibility	27	25	2	45%	LNO
Metadata accessibility	9	9	0	45%	NO
Assistance to users	8	8	0	10%	NO
Overall Assessment	44	42	2	100%	LNO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations

- Provide a customized tabulation service to meet specific user requests.
- The sources and methods document should include information on departures from internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices.
- Designate—and publish on the NIS website, contact information for—staff with responsibility for providing prompt and knowledgeable service and support to users of the CPI.

E. Government Finance Statistics¹

Alignment with International Statistical Standards

15. Table 15 shows Cambodia's weighted score of 103 indicators assessing the alignment of GFS data to international statistical standards. The indicators are grouped into five (5) broad data quality indicator categories.

Table 15. Cambodia: Alignment with International Statistical Standards					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
International Statistical Standards					
Alignment with:					
Concepts & definitions	54	46	8	30%	LO
Accounting rules	23	13	0	20%	LNO
Methods	7	7	0	10%	LO
Classifications/sectorization	4	3	1	15%	LNO
Scope of statistical output	15	15	0	25%	LNO
Overall Assessment	103	84	9	100%	LNO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations

- Review and update GFS mapping with the Chart of Accounts (COA) annually to ensure proper alignment in classification, considering newly introduced expenditure items.

¹The MEF has benefitted from continuous technical assistance (TA) and training on GFS/PSDS for the last 10 years provided through regional long-term experts (LTXs) based at the Capacity Development Office in Thailand (CDOT) and funded by the Government of Japan. The resulting TA Reports provide detailed work plans and recommendations that aim to strengthen alignment with the international statistical standards and improve data accuracy and reliability.

- Enhance the recording of Consumption of Fixed Capital (CFC) and reporting of government nonfinancial asset transactions on an accrual basis.
- Investigate and improve the recording of externally financed project transactions—including both grants revenue and related expenditures by line ministries.
- To broaden the scope of GFS outputs, compile and publish additional GFS tables, including the Statement of Sources and Uses of Cash, Statement of Other Economic Flows, and Integrated Statement of Flows and Stock Positions. Begin with the budgetary central government (BCG) sector and gradually expand coverage to the general government.

Accuracy and Reliability

16. Table 16 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 123 indicators assessing the accuracy and reliability of GFS data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into five (5) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 16. Cambodia: Accuracy and Reliability					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Accuracy and reliability					
Alignment with:					
Adequacy of Source Data	85	48	37	50%	LO
Accuracy of Source Data	7	4	3	10%	O
Statistical Techniques	9	9	0	20%	O
Quality Assurance Practices	15	13	2	10%	O
Revisions analysis & reliability monitoring	7	7	0	10%	LNO
Overall Assessment	123	81	42	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations

- Establish a centralized process for collecting and reconciling off-budget transactions, such as externally funded project grants and donations from development partners that are received directly by line ministries.
- Improve the granularity and accuracy of stock and flow nonfinancial assets (NFA) data by leveraging the capabilities of the newly introduced State Asset Register Management Information System (SARMIS)

Serviceability

17. Table 17 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 37 indicators assessing the serviceability of GFS data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into four (4) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 17. Cambodia: Serviceability					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Serviceability					
Alignment with:					
Periodicity	4	2	2	30%	LNO
Timeliness	4	2	2	30%	LO
Data consistency	17	15	2	30%	LO
Correction & revision policy	12	12	0	10%	LO
Overall Assessment	37	31	6	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendation

- Improve the periodicity and timeliness of general government reporting by producing reliable quarterly public administration establishment (PAE) estimates and consolidated general government GFS data, rather than limiting reporting to annual frequency.

Accessibility

18. Table 18 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 44 indicators assessing the accessibility of GFS data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into three (3) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 18. Cambodia: Accessibility					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Accessibility					
Alignment with:					
Data accessibility	27	26	1	45%	LO
Metadata accessibility	9	8	1	45%	LO
Assistance to users	8	7	1	10%	LO
Overall Assessment	44	41	3	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

F. Public Sector Debt Statistics

Alignment with International Statistical Standards

19. Table 19 shows Cambodia's weighted score of 74 indicators assessing the alignment of PSDS data to international statistical standards. The indicators are grouped into five (5) broad data quality indicator categories.

Table 19. Cambodia: Alignment with International Statistical Standards					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
International Statistics Standards					
Alignment with:					
Concepts & definitions	27	22	5	30%	O
Accounting rules	20	20	0	20%	LO
Methods	9	3	6	10%	NO
Classifications/ sectorization	4	4	0	15%	O
Scope of statistical output	14	11	2	25%	LO
Overall Assessment	74	63	11	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations

- Ensure that all instances of debt forgiveness or cancellation are consistently recorded as transactions that extinguish the debt obligation, in line with PSDS Guide.
- For securities traded in secondary market, ensure that the midpoint exchange rate (the average of buying and selling rates) on the reference date is consistently used to convert debt liability positions denominated in foreign currencies into domestic currency, in line with international best practices for debt statistics.
- Include in the metadata a clear explanation of why MEF does not report contingent liabilities, such as credit guarantees.
- Ensure that all debts arising from PPPs are clearly identified and appropriately recorded in line with international standards.
- Calculate and publish market-value for traded instruments as a memorandum item in PSDS and *Debt Bulletin*.

Accuracy and Reliability

20. Table 20 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 130 indicators assessing the accuracy and reliability of PSDS data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into five (5) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 20. Cambodia: Accuracy and Reliability					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignm ent
Accuracy and reliability					
Alignment with:					
Adequacy of Source Data	97	28	69	50%	LO
Accuracy of Source Data	7	5	2	10%	O
Statistical Techniques	13	8	5	20%	LO
Quality Assurance Practices	6	6	0	10%	O
Revisions analysis & reliability monitoring	7	3	4	10%	LNO
Overall Assessment	130	50	80	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations

- Regularly reconcile development partners' grant information with the Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC) to improve consistency and accuracy in reporting
- Investigate other debt liabilities (including arrears) of BCG, subnational governments, PAEs and SOEs using the FMIS, annual reports and other administrative sources.
- Regularly monitor and report on potential SOEs' debt exposures beyond on-lent loans and other accounts payables.

Serviceability

21. Table 21 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 43 indicators assessing the serviceability of PSDS data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into four (4) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 21. Cambodia: Serviceability

Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Serviceability					
Alignment with:					
Periodicity	5	3	2	30%	LO
Timeliness	7	5	2	30%	LO
Data consistency	19	15	4	30%	LNO
Correction & revision policy	12	6	6	10%	LNO
Overall Assessment	43	29	14	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations

- Include in the debt publication or database a clear analysis of differences between revised and preliminary data, explaining where and why major changes occurred.
- Improve the timeliness of disseminating PSDS to the IMF/World Bank Quarterly Public Sector Debt Statistics (QPSD) database.

Accessibility

22. Table 22 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 44 indicators assessing the accessibility of PSDS data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into three (3) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 22. Cambodia: Accessibility

Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Accessibility					
Alignment with:					
Data accessibility	27	25	2	45%	LO
Metadata accessibility	9	5	4	45%	LO
Assistance to users	8	7	1	10%	O
Overall Assessment	44	37	7	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations

- Introduce and adhere to a public release calendar to inform users when the Debt Bulletin will be published on the MEF website. This will improve predictability and transparency in line with international best practices.

G. Monetary and Financial Statistics

Alignment with International Statistical Standards

23. Table 23 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 90 indicators assessing the alignment of MFS data to international statistical standards. The indicators are grouped into four (4) broad data quality indicator categories.

Table 23. Cambodia: Alignment with International Statistical Standards					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
International Statistics Standards					
Alignment with:					
Concepts & definitions	34	28	6	35%	LO
Accounting rules	27	27	0	25%	LO
Methods	-	-	-	-	-
Classifications/ sectorization	24	23	1	30%	O
Scope of statistical output	5	5	0	10%	O
Overall Assessment	90	83	7	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Accuracy and Reliability

24. Table 24 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 93 indicators assessing the accuracy and reliability of MFS data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into five (5) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 24. Cambodia: Accuracy and Reliability					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Accuracy and reliability					
Alignment with:					
Adequacy of Source Data	60	53	7	50%	O
Accuracy of Source Data	9	7	2	10%	O
Statistical Techniques	6	4	2	20%	LO
Quality Assurance Practices	12	11	1	10%	LNO

Table 24. Cambodia: Accuracy and Reliability (concluded)

Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Accuracy and reliability					
Alignment with:					
Revisions analysis & reliability monitoring	6	6	0	10%	LO
Overall Assessment	93	81	12	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations:

- Introduce a formal revisions policy and periodic revision analysis, covering the frequency, direction, and magnitude of revisions, and publish results to strengthen transparency and improve compilation practices.
- Enhance the granularity of OFC data, especially for non-deposit taking MFIs to improve the accuracy of source data for OFCS compilation.

Serviceability

25. Table 25 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 33 indicators assessing the serviceability of MFS data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into four (4) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 25. Cambodia: Serviceability

Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Serviceability					
Alignment with:					
Periodicity	3	3	0	30%	O
Timeliness	3	3	0	30%	O
Data consistency	15	13	2	30%	LO
Correction & revision policy and practice	12	12	0	10%	LO
Overall Assessment	33	31	2	100%	O
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendations:

- Strengthen the periodicity of insurance sub-sector reporting within the OFCs survey by moving from quarterly to monthly frequency.²
- Improve the timeliness of the central bank survey from dissemination 15–30 days after the end of reference period to within 1–15 days, aligning with SDDS requirements.

Accessibility

26. Table 26 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 44 indicators assessing the accessibility of MFS data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into three (3) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 26. Cambodia: Accessibility					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Accessibility					
Alignment with:					
Data accessibility	27	27	0	45%	LO
Metadata accessibility	9	9	0	45%	NO
Assistance to users	8	8	0	10%	O
Overall Assessment	44	44	0	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendation

- Leverage the SRFs data to generate and publish customizable tables (e.g., by currency of denomination, instruments, or intra-sectoral relationships) to meet users' demand.

² Currently due to lag in reporting, monthly data are repeated for insurance corporations in MFS.

H. Balance of Payments and International Investment Position³

Alignment with International Statistical Standards

27. Table 27 shows Cambodia's weighted score of 121 indicators assessing the alignment of BOP/IIP data to international statistical standards. The indicators are grouped into five (5) broad data quality indicator categories.

Table 27. Cambodia: Alignment with International Statistical Standards					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
International Statistics Standards					
Alignment with:					
Concepts & definitions	52	52	0	30%	LO
Accounting rules	21	20	1	20%	O
Recommended Methods	11	11	0	0%	LNO
Classifications and presentations	4	4	0	10%	O
Recommended scope of statistical output	33	26	7	15%	LO
Overall Assessment	121	113	8	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF					
Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Accuracy and Reliability

28. Table 28 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 140 indicators assessing the accuracy and reliability of BOP/IIP data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into five (5) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 28. Cambodia: Accuracy and Reliability					
Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Accuracy and reliability					
Alignment with:					
Adequacy of Source Data	85	76	9	50%	LO
Accuracy of Source Data	12	12	0	10%	LO
Statistical Techniques	18	18	0	20%	LO
Quality Assurance Practices	18	18	0	10%	LO

³ The NBC has benefitted from continuous technical assistance (TA) and training on BOP/IIP for the ten last years provided through regional long-term experts (LTXs) based at the Capacity Development Office in Thailand (CDOT), and funded by the Government of Japan. The resulting TA Reports provide detailed work plans and recommendations that aim to strengthen alignment with the international statistical standards and improve data accuracy and reliability.

Table 28. Cambodia: Accuracy and Reliability (concluded)

Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Accuracy and reliability					
Alignment with:					
Revisions analysis & reliability monitoring	7	7	0	10%	O
Overall Assessment	140	131	9	100%	LO
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Serviceability

29. Table 29 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 43 indicators assessing the serviceability of BOP/IIP data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into four (4) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 29. Cambodia: Serviceability

Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Serviceability					
Alignment with:					
Periodicity	7	7	0	30%	O
Timeliness	7	7	0	30%	O
Data consistency	17	17	0	30%	O
Correction & revision policy and practice	12	12	0	10%	O
Overall Assessment	43	43	0	100%	O
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Accessibility

30. Table 30 shows Cambodia's weighted scores of 43 indicators assessing the accessibility of BOP/IIP data relative to international recommendations. The indicators are grouped into three (3) broad elements of quality categories.

Table 30. Cambodia: Accessibility

Elements of Quality	Total Recs.	Recs. assessed	Recs. not relevant	Element Weights	Alignment
Accessibility					
Alignment with:					
Data accessibility	26	26	0	45%	O
Metadata accessibility	9	9	0	45%	O
Assistance to users	8	8	0	10%	O
Overall Assessment	43	43	0	100%	O
Source: IMF Staff Calculations from DQAF Key to Symbols: O=Observed (90-100% or 4.5-5.0), LO=Largely Observed (60-89% or 3.0-4.4), LNO=Largely Not Observed (30-59% or 1.5-2.9), and NO=Not Observed (0-29% or less than 1.5)					

Additional Recommendation

- Enhance data accessibility by streamlining and publicizing dissemination practices around data releases: while the *Balance of Payments Statistical Bulletin* is published in hard copy and in pdf online format, the advance calendar notice only cites the Bulletin publication date although the data (Excel convertible to csv) are usually released before then.



INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

CAMBODIA

REPORT ON THE OBSERVANCE OF STANDARDS AND CODES-DATA MODULE VOLUME III

February 26, 2026

VOLUME III: RESPONSE OF THE AUTHORITIES

This document contains the authorities' response to the IMF's data quality assessment (Volumes I and II).

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RESPONSE OF THE AUTHORITIES

1. The authorities welcome the recommendations of the IMF Data ROSC mission that visited Cambodia from September 8 to 12, 2025. These recommendations will be actively considered by the newly formed Board of the National Institute of Statistics (NIS) with a view to facilitating the finalization and implementation of the Institutional Development Plan 2025-2029 (IDP) for the NIS. The Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) and the National Bank of Cambodia (NBC) also concurred with the findings and recommendations of the quality assessment of their respective statistical programs; and have committed to taking the necessary actions which will continue to be supported by existing IMF technical assistance programs on statistics.
2. As noted in the early drafts of the IDP, Cambodia is committed to “...building a digital economy, a capable state, and a society that is inclusive, innovative, and accountable.” In this context, high-quality official statistics are not only technical outputs, they are public goods that support effective planning, evidence-based policymaking, service delivery, and national development. Thus, the ROSC recommendations are both timely and pivotal to Cambodia’s move towards the modernization of its national statistical system.
3. Several lead institutions are involved in data production, analysis, integration, and dissemination in Cambodia. The institutions assessed in the report—NIS, MEF and NBC—all stressed the criticality of interagency cooperation, not only among themselves, but with other national institutions, to ensure that relevant source data are readily available for compiling macroeconomic statistics.
4. The response in the remainder of Part III of this ROSC report represents the views of the NIS, MEF and NBC; and reflects the focus of each agency and its role from the perspective of Data ROSC.

A. National Institute of Statistics (NIS)

5. As the central agency for statistics under the Ministry of Planning, the NIS has a critical role to play in improving the statistical system in Cambodia. It must ensure that Cambodia’s National Statistical System (NSS) produces data that are timely, trustworthy, and fit for purpose. The recent transformation of the NIS into a Public Administrative Establishment (PAE) in 2025 will provide greater autonomy to the NIS to respond to this challenge and will provide political support and funding to the effort.
6. The NIS understands the importance of impartiality in the production of statistics and will implement the recommendations made by the IMF. In particular, the NIS will develop a specific code of ethics for staff who are engaged in the collection, processing and dissemination of data. This is essential for building public trust in the institution and ensuring that data suppliers continue to supply the NIS with the core data required for the compilation of statistics. To this end, the NIS will also develop clear and documented standards for safeguarding against data misuse by staff and ensuring data confidentiality.

7. The Board of the NIS will focus on the main recommendations of the ROSC for its planning and priority setting while implementing the soon-to-be-published IDP. Particular areas for immediate improvement include the update of the NIS website to provide better access to data, release schedules, analytical reports, and metadata (this will apply to both the national accounts and consumer prices data and metadata discussed in the next section).

8. The Board of the NIS will also place emphasis on establishing memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with line agencies to ensure effective data sharing between agencies. This will improve efficiency of source data accessibility; and is particularly critical for both tax data required to increase the frequency of GDP data from annual to quarterly, as well as foreign direct investment data to support expenditure-based GDP compilation.

National Accounts

9. The NIS is currently receiving technical assistance (TA) through EU Twinning on methodological improvements to the process of compiling national accounts, focused on developing the production of Quarterly National Accounts (QNA) and involving a review of data sources, methodologies, IT infrastructure, and human resources. Training on basic national accounts principles based on SNA 2008 and on QNA was provided. Key agreements were also reached on the next steps to be taken, including: i) preparing an inventory of methods and data sources used for compiling ANA and of intra annual data sources that could be used for QNA compilation; ii) developing a shared working area for QNA involving the NIS IT Department; iii) selecting a tool for QNA compilation between NADABAS and XLPBM based on expert assessment; and iv) organizing meetings with stakeholders and with data providers.

10. Once the current GDP rebase to 2025 is completed, the NIS will endeavor to improve the timeliness of this process to regularly update every ten years and to revise like GDP, Gross Value Added, Index of Industrial Production, and Consumer Price Index periodically, to better capture structural changes in the economy.

11. As communicated to the IMF mission team, the NIS is requesting an IMF resident statistics advisor to help develop comprehensive upgrades to the national accounts statistics program and also support the overall implementation of statistics governance reforms underway at the NIS.

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

12. The NIS acknowledges and agrees with the recommendations put forward by IMF for the CPI. The NIS is currently receiving TA from the World Bank (WB) in relation to the CPI. This work is being funded by the Cambodia Australia Partnership for Resilient Economic Development (CAPRED). The objective of the TA was to expand the price collection to all provinces, thereby providing a more representative national CPI (for the existing CPI, the price information is taken from the capital city of Phnom Penh only). Initially the project focused on replacing the paper forms with electronic data collection. This goal was achieved in July 2025, when tablets were introduced for CPI price collection.

13. The project also estimated new weights and identified an updated basket (279 items, up from 258 items) using the Socio-Economic Survey (SES) for 2019. As of September 2025, a matrix of provincial weights was estimated which will allow for the aggregation of the new regional CPIs to the national index. The SES 2019 was used because the survey data were more stable and representative of household consumption expenditure than the surveys in 2021 and 2023, which were during the COVID period. The NIS plans to complete the update of the CPI by December 2025.

14. A key remaining challenge for the NIS will be the replacement of the CPI compilation system, which is based on SQL and was originally introduced with the assistance of Sweden. The NIS staff are not fully familiar with how it works, and will require assistance to make the required changes for the CPI update.

15. Once the WB project has been completed, the NIS intends to request TA from the IMF to continue improving the data sources, methods and compilation systems for the CPI.

B. Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF)

16. The MEF welcomes the Data ROSC findings and recommendations that are aimed at strengthening statistical capacity for compiling Government Finance Statistics (GFS) and Public Sector Debt Statistics (PSDS). We particularly appreciate proposals to establish data sharing protocols between key agencies, enhance staff capacity through targeted training, and introduce a formal revision policy and publication calendar—viewed as timely and aligned with ongoing public financial management and debt reforms. These recommendations not only address existing gaps but also help shape government strategies to improve the NSS, promote transparency, and reinforce trust in fiscal and debt statistics.

17. Is important to recognize Cambodia’s unique context, particularly the current scope of public debt reporting. We note that implementation should consider existing legal and institutional constraints, including the need to revise or draft applicable laws and policies. Specific recommendations such as expanding debt coverage and transitioning toward full accrual accounting may require a phased approach to ensure feasibility and relevance.

18. Despite these challenges, the MEF expresses strong commitment to developing an action plan and prioritizing the recommendations. We recognize that ongoing national statistical reforms and the growing demand for quality data require continued investment in systems and people, supported by sustained capacity building. Collaboration with the IMF and other development partners will be essential, and overall, the recommendations are considered relevant, actionable, and aligned with the broader goal of strengthening Cambodia’s statistical system in line with international best practices.

C. National Bank of Cambodia (NBC)

19. The authorities appreciate the ROSC mission’s guidance and will continue to work closely with the IMF to strengthen data governance and ensure that Cambodia’s statistical practices remain aligned with international standards.

20. The NBC broadly agrees with the assessment of the monetary and financial statistics (MFS) and external sector statistics (ESS) and notes that several of the recommendations are already under consideration, with emphasis on the following areas:

Information Technology (IT)

21. NBC’s IT Department has presented plans to establish a secure internal system to facilitate data sharing within NBC and, where appropriate, with other stakeholders. This will strengthen coordination and support more effective data exchange with other agencies. In parallel, the NBC website is being upgraded with a redesigned interface to enhance searchability and usability. This will make statistical information more accessible to users.

22. Recommendations related to enhancing IT systems will be challenging to implement given scarce resources. While prioritizing core statistical needs, NBC will continue to explore opportunities to modernize its IT systems as resources allow.

Metadata, Transparency, and Accuracy

23. NBC is committed to improving metadata practices and transparency. Plans are underway to include methodological and source information on MFS in the statistical bulletin; and to disseminate a methods and sources document or technical compilation note, to clarify survey coverage and explain data revisions. To ensure regular updates of the e-GDDS metadata for datasets under its purview, NBC will liaise with the IMF to confirm the relevant contact person.

24. The NBC remains committed to strengthening the accuracy and quality of its MFS and would welcome any IMF support on introducing additional validation checks for banks’ data. The NBC also recognizes the emerging challenges of data privacy and access and is keen to learn from international best practices.

External Sector Statistics (ESS)

25. Our responses to ESS-specific recommendations are addressed below:

Coverage of Imports

- The NBC agrees that enhancing merchandise trade statistics is essential for the reliability of the BOP. The NBC is committed to addressing identified areas where these statistics may be understated, particularly regarding imports. Recent partner country reconciliation exercises have been a helpful step forward.

Goods Received Without Ownership Change

- The authorities will continue efforts to improve the recording of imported goods for processing without changing ownership.

Direct Investment (DI)

- The NBC has committed to continue working at a technical level with the Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC) and the MEF to develop solid source data and enhance DI data compilation. Nonetheless, obtaining reliable foreign direct investment (FDI) data will also depend on greater commitment from the CDC to collect detailed company-level financial information. The NBC will continue to work with the IMF, through the IMF Capacity Development Office In Thailand (CDOT), towards developing a robust system for capturing DI data.
- The action plan also includes conducting a direct investment survey of about 60 selected companies, obtaining responses, and compiling enhanced estimates of direct investment based on the results. Given the current lack of comprehensive data, this targeted survey will temporarily supplement CDC data. This survey aims to capture direct investment data for 2024 from companies not covered above, including those in the financial sector, publicly listed companies, and public-private partnerships (PPPs) to be compiled by the MEF. A key challenge is the absence of a comprehensive business register to support the selection of the sample. Accordingly, the first step of this process is to develop a comprehensive and up-to-date register.

Update The Travel Services Estimation Model

- The NBC has committed to an action plan that includes exploring and experimenting with available granular data sources and alternative methodologies. Using more segmented visitor arrivals would provide a more robust estimation.

Introducing New Travel Surveys

- On travel services, the NBC is working to update source data with ongoing support from Japan-funded TA provided through CDOT. Following TA recommendations to update the travel services model and segment arrivals data to enhance the accuracy of length of stay and average expenditures estimates, the NBC has formed a working group with the Ministry of Tourism at the technical level to share data and is preparing to design and implement a targeted survey of travelers. The NBC is also working to reclassify and update the source data and model for expenditures of gamblers to capture both the services component and the secondary income component; and to reclassify and update the source data and model for expenditures of non-resident Cambodians to capture both the services component and the secondary income component.