



Statistical Methodologies Applied to Natural Resources: Template for Government Revenues from Natural Resources

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Background

- Natural resource revenues are macro-critical for one third of the Fund's membership, but currently available data are limited and not comparable across countries.
- In January 2014 STAGO proposed to the IMF Board a standard template to collect data on government revenues from natural resources, based on the revenue classifications of the GFSM 2014.
- Together with the standard template, STAGO also proposed practical definitions for natural resource products, natural resource enterprises, and government revenues from natural resources.



Background

- In March 2017 STAGO will present to the IMF Board the results of a field-test of the standard template in six diverse countries (Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Norway, Peru, and Zambia).
- The field-test of the standard template was a success. The natural resource revenue streams for all six countries were linked to the template's GFSM 2014-based categories, and multi-year data sets for all countries were collected and made comparable across countries.
- In February 2015 the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) adopted the standard template as a mandatory reporting requirement for all its members.



Template Revenue Classification

- While fiscal statistics include government revenues from natural resources, usually these cannot be identified separately from other government revenues.
- Some resource-rich countries have developed their own classifications of natural resource revenues, however, in the absence of international guidelines, these classifications vary in scope and methodology from country to country.



Template Revenue Classification

- Reliance on the GFSM 2014 revenue classification categories and codes, disaggregated to identify separately the revenues from natural resources, allows for: (i) consistency with the data reported for total revenues for each corresponding category, and (ii) comparability across countries.
- At the most detailed level, there are 33 revenue categories in the standard template. Some of these categories are breakdowns of existing GFSM 2014 categories, such as rent and income tax on income, profits, and capital gains, created to provide additional detail relevant to government revenues from natural resources.



Natural Resource Products and Enterprises

- A major challenge faced during the design of the standard template was the absence of an internationally accepted definition of government revenues from natural resources.
- Using the United Nations Central product Classification Version 2, a specific list of hydrocarbon and mining products to be considered natural resource products was proposed.
- The entities that produce those products are considered to be natural resource enterprises.



Government Revenues from Natural Resources

- Government revenues from natural resources are the revenue payments governments receive from natural resource enterprises and their employees.
- The standard template illustrates the usefulness and flexibility of STA's macro statistical methodologies to meet the needs of various users.
- Other aspects of natural resources to which the GFSM 2014 methodology could be applied include expenses, and recognition of natural assets in government balance sheets.



EITI Revenue Table

- The EITI International Secretariat introduced in early 2015 a Summary Data Template that contains three tables, one of them a revenue table based directly on the standard template.
- The revenue table is linked to the payments of individual natural resource enterprises, thereby providing data at a very granular level.
- The EITI's adoption of the standard template provides access to the vast amount of detailed revenue data in national EITI reports.