

GUIDE FOR PARTICIPANTS AND USERS

ENHANCED GENERAL DATA DISSEMINATION SYSTEM

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

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ABBREVIATIONS

ARC	Advance Release Calendar
<i>BPM6</i>	<i>Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual</i> , sixth edition
CBS	Central Bank Survey
CGD	Central Government Debt
CGO	Central Government Operations
CPI	Consumer Price Index
DCS	Depository Corporations Survey
DQAF	Data Quality Assessment Framework
DSBB	Data Standards Bulletin Board
e-GDDS	Enhanced General Data Dissemination System
GDP	Gross Domestic Products
<i>FSI</i>	Financial Soundness Indicators
<i>GFSM</i>	<i>Government Finance Statistics Manual 2014</i>
<i>GFSR</i>	Global Financial Stability Report
GGO	General Government Operations
IIP	International Investment Position
ILO	International Labor Organization
<i>MFSCG</i>	<i>Monetary and Financial Statistics Compilation Guide</i>
<i>MFSM</i>	<i>Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual</i>
NSDP	National Summary Data Page
NPISH	Nonprofit Institutions Serving Households
ODC	Other Depository Corporations
ODP	Open-Data platform
PPI	Producer Price Index
SDDS	Special Data Dissemination Standard
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SDMX	Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange
SIA	Statistical Issues Appendix
SNA	<i>System of National Accounts</i>
TCIRS	Table of Common Indicators Required for Surveillance
UN	United Nations
WPI	Wholesale Price Index

PART I: PURPOSES AND FRAMEWORK

I. INTRODUCTION

Background

- 1.1 The International Monetary Fund (IMF) Executive Board endorsed the Enhanced General Data Dissemination System (e-GDDS) to supersede the GDDS on May 1, 2015, in the context of the *Ninth Review of the IMF's Data Standards Initiatives*. With a greater emphasis on dissemination, the e-GDDS has four main elements: (i) focus on surveillance: the 15 encouraged data categories in the e-GDDS¹ are aligned with those listed in the Table of Common Indicators Required for Surveillance (TCIRS)² provided by member countries to the IMF in the framework of Article IV consultations; (ii) incentives: IMF staff will monitor progress and report to the IMF Executive Board on a regular basis; (iii) a standardized platform for data dissemination; and (iv) capacity development to address identified data gaps. The key objective of this new initiative is to produce a fully operational National Summary Data Page (NSDP), supported by modern IT technology, which will provide users with access to the encouraged e-GDDS data categories.
- 1.2 The focus on TCIRS-based data dissemination: (i) helps assess data shortcomings; and (ii) identifies remedial measures and capacity development needs. The e-GDDS also defines data compilation and dissemination thresholds for a core set of data, in the same spirit as the IMF Executive Board has endorsed a core set of data needed to support surveillance. These thresholds serve to monitor progress under the e-GDDS, addressing the concerns raised in the consultations with stakeholders on the lack of benchmarks to assess statistical development. A detailed description of the thresholds is provided in subsequent paragraphs.
- 1.3 The encouraged e-GDDS data categories cover the real, fiscal, monetary and financial, and external sectors. Participants also would be encouraged to provide statistics for four supplementary data categories—production index, labor market indicators, producer price index, and Financial Soundness Indicators (FSIs)—that are not part of the TCIRS but are included in the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS).³ Participants are required to provide metadata for the encouraged data categories as well as the supplementary data categories they are disseminating. The periodicity and timeliness of the e-GDDS is less stringent than the SDDS, except for national accounts and balance of payments, which are the same (see Table IV.1 in Part IV provides a comparison of coverage, periodicity and timeliness of SDDS and e-GDDS).

¹ See Table II.1 in Part II.

² See Appendix I.

³ FSIs are an encouraged SDDS category.

- 1.4 As indicated above the e-GDDS superseded the GDDS and all GDDS participants have been initially placed in the e-GDDS baseline. From there, the e-GDDS contains three thresholds on the path towards SDDS subscription (see Part IV).
- 1.5 The e-GDDS provides important benefits to participating jurisdictions and to data users. Disseminating the e-GDDS data categories which are aligned with those required for IMF surveillance will increase the interest of policy-makers, rating agencies, and market participants in a country's performance. In addition, the ability to monitor the progress in data dissemination based on the transition from one threshold to another will afford a new way to assess capacity development needs, with the thresholds serving to guide decisions on technical assistance, training, and donor support.

II. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

- 1.6 The purposes of the e-GDDS, which are founded on its predecessor, are to: (i) encourage member countries to improve data quality; (ii) guide members in the provision to the public of comprehensive, timely, accessible, and reliable economic, financial, and socio-demographic statistics; (iii) provide a framework for evaluating needs for data improvement and dissemination as well as setting priorities; and (iv) provide a dissemination platform to measure and monitor progress.

Participation in the e-GDDS

- 1.7 Participation in the e-GDDS is on a voluntary basis. Participants make best efforts to disseminate the data categories included in the e-GDDS, and are encouraged to discuss data and dissemination issues with IMF staff, particularly during (and outside of) the regular Article IV consultations.
- 1.8 Participation of a country in the e-GDDS involves: (i) a commitment to using the e-GDDS as a framework for the development of its national systems for the production and dissemination of macroeconomic, financial, and socio-demographic data; (ii) designation of a country coordinator to work with IMF staff; and (iii) preparation of descriptions ("metadata") of (a) current statistical production and dissemination practices and (b) plans for short-and longer-term improvements that would both be disseminated by the IMF.
- 1.9 E-GDDS participants also are expected to describe recently implemented improvements. The descriptions of current practices and plans would correspond to each of the objectives for the data, coverage, periodicity and timeliness, access, integrity, and quality dimensions using the Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF); (see Appendix IV).
- 1.10 The plans would identify the major shortcomings relative to the objectives set out in the e-GDDS; the steps by which the shortcomings would be addressed; the resources, including technical assistance, necessary to achieve the improvements; and the time frame

during which the improvements would be achieved. In particular, the improvements to be undertaken within the next year and within two to five years would need to be identified.

- 1.11 Participation in the e-GDDS depends upon the completion of the three actions set out above, and is publicly recognized when the metadata are posted on the IMF's Dissemination Standards Bulletin Board (DSBB). At any time before the completion of all needed actions, members may indicate their intent to participate by sending an appropriate communication to the IMF, which will provide the basis for work with the member on the remaining actions involved in formalizing e-GDDS participation.
- 1.12 An economy can opt for (i) participation in the e-GDDS from the outset; (ii) move gradually toward participation; or (iii) continue to work with the IMF on the improvement of national systems for the production and dissemination of statistics, as in the past, without participation. Economies cannot participate in both the e-GDDS and the SDDS at the same time. Although, participation in the e-GDDS is not a prerequisite for subscribing to the SDDS, economies may well find the e-GDDS framework useful as a stepping stone for subscribing to the SDDS. In this context, e-GDDS plans for improvement could be oriented towards meeting SDDS requirements, where relevant.

Data Coverage, periodicity, and timeliness

- 1.13 The e-GDDS framework adopts the five dimensions of data quality defined in the IMF DQAF⁴ namely, assurances of integrity, methodological soundness, accuracy and reliability, serviceability, and accessibility. Accordingly, the e-GDDS metadata is structured along the IMF's DQAF and includes definitions and general considerations for (i) quality, (ii) coverage, periodicity, and timeliness; and (iii) access by the public.
- 1.14 The e-GDDS focuses on the production and dissemination of data that are most important in evaluating performance and policy in four macroeconomic sectors—real, fiscal, financial, and external. The e-GDDS also recommends the dissemination of supplementary data for the following data categories: production index, labor market (employment, unemployment, and wages/earnings as relevant), producer price index, and FSIs which are not part of the TCIRS but are included in the SDDS. The FSI include: regulatory Tier 1 capital to risk-weighted assets; regulatory Tier 1 capital to assets; nonperforming loans net of provisions to capital; nonperforming loans to total gross loans; return on assets; liquid assets to short-term liabilities; and net open position in foreign exchange to capital. Dissemination of FSI data is consistent with the IMF's efforts to strengthen financial sector surveillance to better detect systemic risks and add a forward-looking element to the e-GDDS in anticipation of demands for more financial data.

⁴ Found at <http://dsbb.imf.org/Pages/DQRS/DQAF.aspx>, see also Appendix IV.

- 1.15 The e-GDDS also recommends the dissemination of demographic data (population) as well as a selection of socio-demographic indicators related to the United Nations (UN) sustainable development goals (SDGs) of the authorities' choice (more information regarding the e-GDDS data categories and the encouraged metadata are provided in Part II of this guide).⁵ It also covers supplementary macroeconomic and financial data, as well as socio-demographic data and supports dissemination of other relevant data that shed light on economic development and structural change.
- 1.16 The e-GDDS recognizes the importance of production and dissemination of data that are of appropriately high periodicity and timeliness.
- 1.17 Periodicity refers to the type of period covered by the data compiled (e.g., annual, quarterly, monthly, weekly, and daily). The periodicity of a particular data category reflects several factors, including analytical needs and the ease of data collection and compilation. The e-GDDS should be viewed as encouraging improvements over time in periodicity of data dissemination (i.e., it encourages higher frequency) that are consistent with improvements in data quality.
- 1.18 Timeliness refers to the lapse of time between a reference date and the dissemination of the data. It reflects many factors, including institutional arrangements, such as the preparation of accompanying commentary. Dissemination of statistics takes several forms, including: (i) formal publications, such as news releases (perhaps presenting only summary statistics), periodicals such as monthly bulletins, or one-time volumes; (ii) announcement of availability of statistics on request (but not necessarily without charge), including through electronic databases; (iii) online through the internet, DVD/CD-ROM of a formal publication or a database; and (iv) recorded brief telephone messages, e-mail and fax services, especially in the case of data categories justifying high-frequency distribution.
- 1.19 The recommendations for timeliness in e-GDDS are set out in recognition of the diversity of relevant country practices and circumstances. They either generally correspond to the SDDS timeliness requirements for a given indicator or relate to good practice across a broad group of countries. The e-GDDS should be viewed as encouraging improvements over time in the timeliness of data dissemination (i.e., it encourages shorter lags in data dissemination).

Data Access by the public

- 1.20 Dissemination of official statistics is an essential feature of statistics as a public good. Ready and equal access is of principal need for the public, including market participants.

⁵ See UN Sustainable Development Goals on the internet at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics>.

To support ready and equal access, the e-GDDS recommends: (i) publication of an advance release calendar; and (ii) simultaneous release to all interested parties.

- 1.21 Advance release calendars (ARCs)⁶ highlight sound management and transparency of statistical compilation and provide data users with information needed to take a more active and organized approach to acquiring the inputs for their work. The objective may be met, for example, by the dissemination of calendars showing release dates for the current month and for the following three months. Data disseminating agencies are encouraged to make widely known the name and address of an office or a person who could provide the latest information about the ARC, including release of data for which periodicity and timeliness are irregular, and newly disseminated data.
- 1.22 To recognize that data are valuable commodities and in the interest of equity, the e-GDDS recommends the release of data to all interested parties at the same time. Release is not intended to refer to access only by government agencies, including those other than the producing agency; pre-release access is governed by conditions set out in the description of integrity (see next subsection). The act of release may consist of providing summary data, to be accompanied, perhaps later, by provision of detail. The objective may be met by providing at least one publicly identified and accessible location where data are available to all on an equal basis once they are released.
- 1.23 Therefore, given the ongoing global integration and increased reliance on the internet and electronic data transmission, the e-GDDS recommends releasing data simultaneously to the public through an NSDP⁷. In order to further enhance the access by the public to the data, the data categories on the NSDP may be hyperlinked to a database where data are: (i) freely available in a variety of standard, human and machine-readable electronic file formats, interfaces and bulk forms; and (ii) freely available under a license that permits use, re-use, and re-distribution for commercial and non-commercial purposes with the requirement of proper attribution.

Data Integrity

- 1.24 To fulfill the purpose of providing the public with information, official statistics must have the confidence of their users. Confidence in the statistics ultimately is a matter of confidence in the objectivity and professionalism of the agency producing the statistics. Transparency of the data producing agency's practices and procedures is a key factor in creating this confidence. To assist users of the data disseminated under the e-GDDS in assessing their integrity, the e-GDDS recommends: (i) dissemination of the terms and conditions under which official statistics are produced, including those relating to the

⁶ ARCs are required under the SDDS, and encouraged under the e-GDDS.

⁷ NSDPs are required under the SDDS, and encouraged under the e-GDDS.

confidentiality of individually identifiable information; (ii) identification of internal government access to data before release; (iii) identification of ministerial commentary on the occasion of statistical releases; and (iv) provision of information about revision and advance notice of major changes in methodology.

- 1.25 The dissemination of the terms and conditions under which official statistics are produced is fundamental to fostering confidence in the objectivity and professionalism of official statistics. The terms and conditions under which statistical agencies operate may take various forms, including statistics laws, charters, and codes of conduct. Accordingly, a first step toward this objective would be to put such laws, charters, and codes in place. The terms and conditions incorporated in them may refer to matters such as the relationship of the statistical unit to a larger department or ministry of which it is part (if relevant), the legal authority to collect data, the requirement to publish data it has collected, the terms of reference for the chief statistician/director, and procedures and processes related to confidentiality of individual responses. Dissemination of this information may take a variety of forms, including annual reports of the producers of statistics, abstracts in key publications, and statements of relevant passages referring to confidentiality of survey forms. Statistics producers may find it convenient to use logos and other insignia to remind users of the terms under which statistics carrying the logo are produced. These terms and conditions should be kept up-to-date.
- 1.26 In the interest of transparency about possible undue influence on the data before release, the e-GDDS calls for listing the persons/positions outside the agency producing the data, that have pre-release access. Such identification—that is, statements of who knows what—may take a variety of forms, including brief notices to the public and annual reports of the producer of statistics. This practice is addressed mainly to situations in which the data are sensitive for policy or other reasons, and the objective may be met, at a minimum, by following this practice for the most sensitive data categories and indicators.
- 1.27 Ministerial commentary is not necessarily expected to maintain the same degree of objectivity or freedom from political judgment as would be expected of good practice for a producer of official statistics. Therefore, a good practice is to identify such commentary so that its source will be transparent to the public. The identification of ministerial commentary on the occasion of statistical release may take several forms, including separate statements by the minister (or other policy or political official) or, alternatively, identification of a statistical agency's material in a release that contains both ministerial commentary and data. The agency's material may include data, explanatory text (e.g., of an unusual event affecting the data), and objective analysis; the identification of an agency's material may be made in various ways, including the use of source lines in tables and of the producer's logos or other insignia. This practice is addressed mainly to situations in which the data are sensitive for policy or other reasons, and the objective may be met, at a minimum, by following this practice for the most sensitive data categories and indicators.

- 1.28 In the interest of transparency about the data producers' practices, the e-GDDS calls for the provision of information about past revisions and about major prospective sources of revision. Relevant information about revisions in data may include statements about the policy followed (e.g., a policy of revising monthly data when an annual, more comprehensive survey becomes available or a policy of no revision) and data about the size of past revisions; both policies and data on revisions may have to be developed before they can be disseminated. Changes in methodology (e.g., changes in base year, major expansions of sample size, introduction of alternative data sources, and reclassification of transactions or industries) are to be expected in developing statistical systems. The advance notices may take a variety of forms, including, at a minimum, a short statement in the last presentation of unrevised data or on a stand-alone basis. These statements would identify the kinds of changes to be made and give a source for additional information, such as a document available on request or the name and address of a person able to explain the upcoming change. Participants are encouraged, as well, to provide easy access to this type of information explaining revisions after they are released.

Quality

- 1.29 Data quality must have a high priority. Data users should be provided with information to assess quality and quality improvements. e-GDDS participants are encouraged to adopt and implement current internationally accepted statistical methodologies for the data categories covered by the e-GDDS and are encouraged to indicate where statistical practices deviate from these methodologies (a specified list of these methodologies is posted on the DSBB (see <http://dsbb.imf.org/Pages/SDDS/StatMethod.aspx>). Although quality is difficult to judge, monitorable proxies, designed to focus on information the user needs to judge quality, can be useful. To assist users of the data disseminated under the e-GDDS in assessing their quality, the e-GDDS recommends: (i) dissemination of documentation on methodology and sources used in preparing statistics; and (ii) dissemination of component detail, reconciliations with related data, and statistical frameworks that support statistical cross-checks and provide assurance of reasonableness.
- 1.30 The availability of documentation on methodology and sources underlying statistics is key to users' awareness of the strengths and weaknesses of the data. In addition to information on the DSBB, the participant's documentation may take several forms, including summary notes accompanying release of the data, separate publications, and papers available on request from the producers. e-GDDS participants are encouraged to prepare and disseminate statements about important features of quality (for example, the kinds of errors to which the data are subject, sources of non-comparability over time, and measures of coverage for census data or sample error for survey data).⁸

⁸ The size of past revisions, which is an important aspect of quality, also is included under integrity, drawing on its role as an indicator of the transparency of conditions under which data are produced (see paragraph 1.28).

- 1.31 To support and encourage users' checks and verification of data, this element provides for dissemination of components underlying aggregate series, dissemination within an internationally accepted statistical methodology/framework, and/or dissemination of comparisons and reconciliations with related data. Component detail should be at a level that does not conflict with other desirable characteristics such as the confidentiality of individually identifiable information or statistical reliability. Statistical frameworks include accounting identities and statistical relationships (such as reconciling stocks with flows). Comparisons and reconciliations include those that cut across sectors, such as exports and imports as part of the national accounts and as part of the balance of payments.

III.E-GDDS MODIFICATIONS TO THE GDDS PREDECESSOR

- 1.32 The e-GDDS modifies its predecessor GDDS through: (i) a revision to the encouraged data categories; (ii) a new focus on disseminating data in a standardized format; (iii) annual monitoring of progress and developments; and (iv) leveraging surveillance activities to support statistical improvement. All these new e-GDDS characteristics provide a good basis to address the major weaknesses of the GDDS identified during its existence since 1997, including a lack of incentives for policy makers to allocate sufficient resources for data compilation and dissemination; absence of benchmarks, external monitoring, and peer review; and inadequate coordination of statistical capacity development efforts at both the national and international levels.

(i) Revision to the Encouraged Data Categories

- 1.33 The e-GDDS data categories are now aligned to the data categories used by the IMF for its surveillance (see Table II.1 in Part II). The e-GDDS data categories in Table II.1 are divided into three groups: *Macroeconomic and financial data: Encouraged data*; *Macroeconomic and financial data: Supplementary data*; and *Demographic and selected socio-economic indicators*. These are discussed as follows:
- 1.34 *Macroeconomic and financial data: Encouraged data* cover 15 data categories aligned with the TCIRS (see Appendix I). The recommended coverage features are listed under the "components" column of Table II.1. The close linkage of the e-GDDS with the IMF's main activity of member-countries surveillance brings data dissemination in the focus of policy makers.
- 1.35 *Macroeconomic and financial data: Supplementary data* include data categories which are prescribed or encouraged by the SDDS but are not currently included in the TCIRS. By compiling and disseminating the supplementary data categories e-GDDS participants would be preparing for eventual subscription to the SDDS. The supplementary macroeconomic and financial data categories are: production index, labor market (employment, unemployment, wages and/or earnings), producer price index, and financial soundness indicators.

1.36 *Demographic and selected socio-economic indicators* include population which is an addendum data category in the SDDS. Also covered are selected socio-economic indicators of e-GDDS participant's choosing, such as those linked to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (e.g., education, health, poverty etc.).

(ii) Renewed focus on disseminating data in a standardized format

1.37 Under the e-GDDS, participants are encouraged to disseminate the 15 data categories and their components (see Table II.1 in Part II) on a standardized NSDP on the internet, which is linked to the DSBB electronically through hyperlinks. The NSDP should be modeled on an information-technology platform using the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX) standards as the enabler. The NSDP should have a relatively simple web layout to reduce cost. Customized to the authorities' preferences, the NSDP should feature columns indicating the e-GDDS data categories, separate hyperlinks to the authorities' dissemination sites (for example, the websites of the national statistical office, central bank, or ministry of finance) for each data category, and separate hyperlinks to the electronic SDMX data files for each data category.

1.38 Participants in the e-GDDS may set up their own NSDP or disseminate the encouraged data through an NSDP based on an open-data platform (ODP). This electronic platform shares similar advantages with an NSDP using SDMX technology (e.g., machine-readable, push/pull capabilities; data exchange; enhanced coordination) but automates the process of creating the needed data in SDMX formats. Furthermore, participants are encouraged to disseminate on the internet an ARC showing the data release dates for the current month and for the following three months (More information on the NSDP and ARC is provided in Part III of this guide).

(iii) Annual monitoring of progress and developments

1.39 The e-GDDS defines three thresholds in a continuous path to readiness for subscription to the SDDS. In the baseline, participants disseminate metadata, plans for improvement, and none or some of the encouraged data categories. The e-GDDS participants without an NSDP are considered as in the baseline until they meet the other/data requirements of the first threshold. Once a participant disseminates an NSDP staff will monitor the dissemination of the data and prepare annual reports and semiannual updates on the performance of the e-GDDS participants in complying with the timeliness and periodicity specified for each of the 15 data categories. Both the semiannual reports will be sent to the e-GDDS coordinators, and the annual reports will be posted on the DSBB. Furthermore, under the e-GDDS, IMF staff would elaborate further on the assessment of data adequacy informed by a discussion on data dissemination, with respect to the e-GDDS data categories. The summary text in the Statistical Issues Appendix of Article IV reports would be augmented to reflect the e-GDDS participant's dissemination practices (More information on e-GDDS thresholds and monitoring are provided in Part IV of this guide).

(iv) Leveraging surveillance activities to support statistical improvement

- 1.40 A high-level commitment to disciplined data dissemination is a critical factor to motivate improvement in data quality. In particular, the sharpened focus of the e-GDDS on disciplined data dissemination is essential to mobilize the resources and political support needed to set countries on the path towards data quality improvement. In this connection, raising the profile of data quality and dissemination weaknesses in Article IV consultations is crucial to: (i) elevate data issues in internal/domestic policy discussions; (ii) highlight resource and capacity constraints; and (iii) strengthen coordination and collaboration among the members of the national statistical system.
- 1.41 The e-GDDS effectively leverages IMF surveillance activity to elevate statistical issues to the level of policy makers. The close link between the e-GDDS and Article IV consultations decisively strengthens the constituency for better data and more resources, thus creating a virtuous circle for reform.

PART II: METADATA

- 2.1 The e-GDDS objectives for coverage, periodicity, and timeliness are summarized in Table II.1. Recommended coverage features of the e-GDDS are listed under the “Components” column. However, some data categories or components are designated as “encouraged”, “supplementary”, and “demographic and selected socio-economic indicators” as discussed above. This designation recognizes that the relative importance of a specific data category or component to Fund surveillance work as well as analytical value in understanding an economy.
- 2.2 Participation in the e-GDDS involves the preparation or the update of metadata,⁹ on (i) current statistical compilation and dissemination practices for each data category; and (ii) plans for short- and medium-term improvements in each of the four dimensions of the system. Metadata should be prepared using the DQAF format (Appendix IV), to be disseminated by the IMF on the DSBB (see Section I in Part III).

I. MACROECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL DATA: ENCOURAGED

REAL SECTOR

National Accounts

- 2.3 The comprehensive statistical framework for the real sector is the System of National Accounts (SNA). The e-GDDS encourages dissemination of data on national accounts on a quarterly basis with a one quarter lag.
- 2.4 The e-GDDS encourages participants to disseminate GDP compiled by major expenditure category and/or by productive sectors (industry).¹⁰ Further disaggregation by major expenditure categories or productive sectors is on voluntary basis. Although participants

⁹ Preparation of metadata includes the periodic update of metadata as changes and improvements take place.

¹⁰ In the national accounts, and consistent with the United Nations’ International Standard Industrial Classifications (ISIC) of All Economic Activities, the term “industry” covers various economic activities, including agriculture; mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas, and water supply; construction; wholesale and retail trade; hotels and restaurants; transport, storage, and communications; financial intermediation; real estate, renting, and business activities; public administration and defense; education; health and social work; and other community, social and personal services.

Table II.1. e-GDDS: Data Coverage, Periodicity and Timeliness			
Data Categories	Components	Periodicity	Timeliness
Macroeconomic and Financial Data: Encouraged			
Real sector			
National accounts (GDP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GDP in current prices and volume by production approach, or by expenditure approach. 	Quarterly	1 quarter
Consumer price index		Monthly	2 months
Fiscal sector			
General government operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statement of government operations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ revenue; ○ expense; ○ gross operating balance; ○ net operating balance; ○ net acquisition of nonfinancial assets; ○ net lending (+)/net borrowing (-) ○ net acquisition of financial assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) domestic; (2) foreign; ○ net incurrence of liabilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) domestic; (2) foreign; ○ statistical discrepancy 	Annual	3 quarters
Central government operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statement of government operations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ revenue; ○ expense; ○ gross operating balance; ○ net operating balance; ○ net acquisition of nonfinancial assets; ○ net lending (+)/net borrowing (-) ○ net acquisition of financial assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) domestic; (2) foreign; ○ net incurrence of liabilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) domestic; (2) foreign; ○ statistical discrepancy 	Quarterly	1 quarter
Central government gross debt	Domestic and foreign gross debt	Quarterly	2 quarters
Financial sector			
Depository corporations Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broad money; • Domestic claims; and • Net foreign assets. 	Monthly	1 quarter
Central bank Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monetary base; • Domestic claims; and • Net foreign assets. 	Monthly	2 months
Interest rates	Short and long-term government security rates, policy-oriented rate	Monthly	

Table II.1 e-GDDS: Data Coverage, Periodicity and Timeliness (concluded)			
Data Categories	Components	Periodicity	Timeliness
Stock market (if applicable)		Monthly	
External sector			
Balance of payments ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current account; • Capital account; • Financial account; and • Net errors and omissions. 	Quarterly	1 quarter
External debt ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public and publicly guaranteed external debt, broken down by maturity (short-term and long-term); and • Private external debt not publicly guaranteed, broken down by maturity (short-term and long-term). 	Quarterly	2 quarters
Official reserve assets	Gross official reserve assets	Monthly	1 month
Merchandise Trade	Total exports and total imports	Monthly	12 weeks
International investment position (IIP) ¹	Assets and liabilities, disaggregated by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • direct investment; • portfolio investment; • other investment; and • reserve assets (included only in assets). 	Annual	3 quarters
Exchange rates	Spot rates	Daily	
Macroeconomic and Financial Data: Supplementary Data			
Production index	Manufacturing or industrial, primary commodity, or sector coverage, as relevant.	Monthly (as relevant)	12 weeks
Labor market	Employment, unemployment, wages/earnings, as relevant.	Annual	3 quarters
Producer price index		Monthly	2 months
Financial soundness indicators (FSIs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulatory Tier 1 capital to risk-weighted assets • Regulatory Tier 1 capital to assets • Nonperforming loans net of provisions to capital • Nonperforming loans to total gross loans • Return on assets • Liquid assets to short-term liabilities • Net open position in foreign exchange to capital 	Quarterly	1 quarter
Demographic and Selected Socio-Economic Indicators			
Population	Population characteristics: size	Annual (Census every ten years)	3–6 months for annual updates; 9–12 months for Census
Selection of socio-demographic indicators	Sustainable development goals and other indicators of the authorities' choosing		

¹ Based on *BPM6* categories; *BPM5* data should be presented in equivalent detail.

can use their own classifications in the expenditure/productive sector approaches, classification of data according to the latest edition of the SNA is strongly encouraged.¹¹ The SNA provides useful guidance on best practices for compilation of the national accounts.

- 2.5 Participants should refer to these guidelines in preparing their metadata for the national accounts and note deviations from the guidelines, if any, in the metadata posted on the DSBB.
- 2.6 The e-GDDS encourages participants to disseminate national accounts data in current prices and in volume terms (constant prices), together with associated implicit price deflators/price indices.

Consumer Price Index

- 2.7 The e-GDDS encourages participants to disseminate consumer price indices on a monthly basis within two months after the reference month. The data are disseminated as indices. To be meaningful, the indices should be presented in a form normalized to a reference period,¹² for which the normalized index assumes the value 100.¹³ The metadata to be posted on the DSBB should include an indication of all reference periods (price, weights, and index).
- 2.8 A consumer price index (CPI) measures the variation over time in the prices of goods and services that households acquire, pay for, or use for purposes of consumption. Countries may prepare several indices, differing, for example, with respect to geographic coverage (e.g., urban versus rural), reference population (e.g., whole population or a group such as industrial workers), and item coverage. If there is more than one CPI, the index to be tracked should be the most widely used in the country. The metadata should note the statistical characteristics of the index, including its scope and limitations and whether it conforms with international best or generally accepted practice.¹⁴

¹¹ Countries that have not adopted the latest SNA may use the classifications shown in the previous edition of the SNA.

¹² Which should not be adjusted frequently.

¹³ Although the normalized index assumes the value 100 in the reference period, the index may comprise a chain of periodically reweighted and rebased series fragments.

¹⁴ *Consumer Price Index Manual, Theory and Practice* (Geneva: ILO, 2004). See also IMF's DQAF at dsbb.imf.org for guidance in describing how the CPI is compiled.

FISCAL SECTOR

- 2.9 The e-GDDS encourages participants to disseminate to the public the following fiscal sector data categories:
- data on general government operations (GGO) on an annual basis within three quarters after the end of the reference year;
 - data on central government operations (CGO) on a quarterly basis within one quarter after the end of the reference quarter; and
 - data on central government debt (CGD) on a quarterly basis within two quarters after the end of the reference quarter.
- 2.10 The e-GDDS recommends the classification of fiscal data using the *Government Finance Statistics Manual 2014 (GFSM 2014)*, whether the data are compiled on an accrual or cash basis.
- 2.11 The e-GDDS metadata should specify the concepts, definitions, and classifications used in the data compilation; the metadata should highlight any differences between national practices and international or regional guidelines.

General Government Operations

- 2.12 The comprehensive statistical framework for the fiscal sector is the general government operations, as defined in GFSM 2014, Chapter 2. The GGO covers operations of all governmental units (including social security funds) whether operating at the central level, state/provincial/regional level, or local level.
- 2.13 The e-GDDS metadata are to describe the institutional units and the legal and economic nature of government activities covered by the data. Key institutional units and significant government activities and accounts excluded by the data should be disclosed in the metadata.
- 2.14 As indicated earlier, the e-GDDS encourages participants to disseminate data on GGO with an annual periodicity and within three quarters of the end of the reference period. The data disseminated should be actual data or preliminary actual data, and not data based on projections.

2.15 Based on the GFSM 2014 framework,¹⁵ the e-GDDS encourages the dissemination of the following components of the GGO (see also Table II.1):

- Revenue;
- Expense;
- Gross operating balance;
- Net operating balance;
- Net acquisition of nonfinancial assets;
- Net lending (+)/net borrowing (-)
- Net acquisition of financial assets:
 - Domestic;
 - Foreign;
- Net incurrence of liabilities:
 - Domestic;
 - Foreign;
- Statistical discrepancy

2.16 The domestic and foreign distinctions of financing should be determined by the residency of the creditor.

2.17 Participants following the methodology of the Manual on *Government Finance Statistics 1986 (GFSM 1986)* or a national presentation broadly aligned with it, should have no major difficulties disseminating the encouraged GGO components as presented above.

Central Government Operations

2.18 CGO data serve as a tracking category, providing a more frequent and timely indicator of the fiscal stance than is usual with GGO. CGO data should cover, in addition to budgetary accounts, as wide a range of central government units as feasible (i.e., extrabudgetary units and accounts and social security, as relevant). The e-GDDS metadata should describe the institutional units covered by the CGO data disseminated.

2.19 The e-GDDS encourages participants to disseminate quarterly data on CGO within one quarter after the end of the reference quarter. The data disseminated should be actual data or preliminary actual data and not data based on projections. Apart from coverage, periodicity, and timeliness, the other characteristics of the encouraged CGO data are identical with those of the GGO data, detailed above.

¹⁵ <http://www.imf.org/external/Pubs/FT/GFS/Manual/2014/gfsfinal.pdf>

Central Government Debt

- 2.20 The e-GDDS encourages participants to disseminate quarterly data on CGD within two quarters after the end of the reference quarter.
- 2.21 Broad institutional coverage is encouraged for the CGD, including obligations incurred by the central government as a result of its bearing the ultimate risks of operations of public-private partnerships. The e-GDDS metadata should indicate whether the coverage of CGD is identical to that of CGO and, if applicable, how the coverage differs. The e-GDDS metadata should also describe any exclusion of liabilities of central government units and any special characteristics of debt instruments.
- 2.22 Participants are encouraged to disseminate CGD broken down by foreign and domestic components according to the residency of the creditors.
- 2.23 Participants may also want to disseminate additional useful breakdowns, such as:
- by original maturity (short-term, long-term); “short term” is defined as original maturity of one year or less; “long term” is defined as original maturity over one year; further disaggregation of the latter into “payments due within one year” and “payments due over one year” is also very useful,
 - by instrument,
 - by currency of issue, or
 - by other characteristics (for example, by indexing).

FINANCIAL SECTOR

- 2.24 In discussing the e-GDDS data coverage, periodicity, and timeliness of the financial sector, this chapter covers the depository corporations survey (DCS), the central bank survey (CBS), interest rates, and the stock market–share price index.

Depository Corporations Survey

- 2.25 The comprehensive statistical framework for the financial sector encouraged under the e-GDDS is the Depository Corporations Survey (DCS), introduced by the *Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual (MFSM)* published in 2000. The DCS covers depository corporations, which include the central bank and other depository corporations (ODCs). The ODCs, in turn, cover resident financial corporations and quasi-corporations that mainly engage in financial intermediation and incur liabilities included in broad money.
- 2.26 The *Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual and Compilation Guide (MFSMCG 2016)* provides an analytical framework and guidelines for the compilation of monetary and financial statistics. The e-GDDS encourages full institutional coverage, as recommended in

the *MFSMCG*, as the best practice. A participating country's metadata for this data category should describe the coverage of its DCS and related characteristics.

- 2.27 The e-GDDS encourages the dissemination of monthly data for the DCS, within three months after the end of the reference month.
- 2.28 The e-GDDS encourages to disseminate, at a minimum, the following DCS components:
- Broad money
 - Domestic claims (further disaggregated if possible into (i) net claims on central government; and (ii) claims on other resident sectors);
 - Net foreign assets (total foreign assets minus total foreign liabilities).¹⁶
- 2.29 According to the *MFSMCG*, the broad money components in the DCS correspond to depository corporations' liabilities to money-holdings sectors, which consist of (i) other financial corporations; (ii) state and local governments; (iii) nonfinancial corporations; and (iv) households and non-profit institutions serving households (NPISHs).

Central Bank Survey

- 2.30 The e-GDDS encourages the dissemination of monthly data for the central bank survey (CBS), within two months after the end of the reference month.
- 2.31 The *MFSMCG* provides an analytical framework and guidelines for the compilation of the CBS.
- 2.32 The e-GDDS encourages to disseminate, at a minimum, the following CBS components:
- Monetary base
 - Domestic claims (further disaggregated if possible into (i) claims on ODCs; (ii) net claims on central government; and (iii) claims on other resident sectors);
 - Net foreign assets (total foreign assets minus total foreign liabilities).

Interest Rates

- 2.33 The e-GDDS encourages that interest rates are disseminated on a monthly basis. However, it does not specify timeliness.
- 2.34 The e-GDDS encourages to disseminate both short-term and long-term government securities' rates. A three- or six-month Treasury bill rate and a 10-year government bond

¹⁶ The balance of payment concept of "residency" applies in distinguishing foreign and domestic assets and liabilities.

yield are common examples of representative rates. A country may not have a short- or long-term government security rate, for use as a representative rate; for example, under continuing fiscal surpluses, there may be no issuance of government securities, or under conditions of high inflation, there may be no issuance of long-term government securities. These facts need to be noted in the metadata for the DSBB.

- 2.35 The e-GDDS also encourages the dissemination of a policy-oriented interest rate such as a central bank lending or discount rate. This interest rate should be described in the metadata for posting on the DSBB (e.g., the policy-oriented interest rate is the rate at which the central bank lends to other depository corporations).

Stock Market–Share Price Index

- 2.36 The e-GDDS encourages participants to disseminate stock market data in the form of a share price index, if available, on a monthly basis. No specific timeliness, however, is specified.
- 2.37 In countries where no substantial stock market exists, this data category will not be relevant.

EXTERNAL SECTOR

- 2.38 This chapter discusses the e-GDDS data coverage, periodicity, and timeliness of the external sector. It covers the balance of payments, external debt, official reserve assets, merchandise trade, international investment position, and exchange rates.

Balance of Payments

- 2.39 The balance of payments and the international investment position represent the two interrelated comprehensive statistical frameworks for the external sector, with the former covering external transactions over a specific period of time (flows) and the latter presenting external positions (stocks) at a point in time. The IMF's sixth edition of the *Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual* (BPM6)¹⁷ provides the internationally accepted guidelines for the compilation of these data.
- 2.40 For the balance of payments, the e-GDDS encourages the dissemination of quarterly data within one quarter after the end of the reference quarter.

¹⁷ An electronic version of the IMF's BPM6 can be found on the IMF's website: <https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/bop/2007/bopman6.htm>.

- 2.41 The encouraged components to be disseminated are the current account, the capital account, the financial account, and net errors and omissions.

External Debt

- 2.42 The *External Debt Statistics: Guide for Compilers and Users* (2013) provides the latest internationally accepted guidelines for the compilation of external debt statistics.
- 2.43 The e-GDDS encourages the dissemination of external debt data on a quarterly basis with a lag of two quarters.

Official Reserve Assets

- 2.44 The e-GDDS encourages the dissemination of positions data on official reserve assets on a monthly basis within one month after the end of the reference month. Unlike balance of payments statistics, which are flow data covering transactions over a reference period, official reserves assets are stock data, referring to holdings of such assets at a point in time—for example, on the last day of a calendar month, or on the last day of a week, or on any given day.
- 2.45 For countries with fixed exchange rates or less than fully flexible exchange rates, official reserves assets can serve as a tracking category, providing a more frequent and timely indicator of external sector developments than the comprehensive framework of the balance of payments.
- 2.46 The encouraged data are to cover gross official reserve assets. The definition of official reserve assets is provided in *BPM6* and amplified in the *IMF International Reserves and Foreign Currency Liquidity: Guidelines for a Data Template 2013 (Reserves Template Guidelines)*. Presenting data in U.S. dollars or other SDR-basket currencies (euro, yen, sterling, and renminbi effective October 2016) facilitates international comparisons.
- 2.47 If relevant and feasible, countries are encouraged to disseminate reserve-related liabilities to permit calculation of a net international reserves measure. Reserve-related liabilities refer to short-term foreign currency liabilities of the monetary authorities that are direct claims by nonresidents on the reserve assets of an economy. They are also stock data referring to liabilities outstanding at a given point in time. To be useful for analysis, liabilities data should refer to the same point in time as that for official reserve assets.
- 2.48 The coverage of reserve assets—and reserve-related liabilities, if relevant—is to be described in the metadata, with reference to *BPM6* and the *Reserves Template Guidelines*, noting differences between a country’s practices and the international guidelines.

Merchandise Trade

- 2.49 Merchandise trade serves as another tracking category for the balance of payments, providing a more frequent and timely indicator of developments in the current account of the balance of payments.
- 2.50 The e-GDDS encourages that data for merchandise trade (both total merchandise imports and exports) be disseminated on a monthly basis within twelve weeks after the end of the reference month.

International Investment Position

- 2.51 The e-GDDS encourages the dissemination of annual International investment position (IIP) data within three quarters after the end of the reference year. Data presented in the IIP are stock data. *BPM6* provides the latest guidance on the compilation of IIP data.
- 2.52 Key components of the IIP assets and liabilities (corresponding to the major components of the financial account of the balance of payments) are as follows:
- Direct investment;
 - Portfolio investment excluding Financial derivatives;
 - Other investment; and
 - Reserve assets (included only in assets).

Exchange Rates

- 2.53 The e-GDDS encourages dissemination of spot exchange rates daily. The e-GDDS recognizes that exchange rates are widely available from private sources and dissemination by official producers is therefore not time-sensitive. The metadata should indicate the principal nongovernmental primary sources, if any, of exchange rates. Official producers are, nevertheless, encouraged to disseminate information on exchange rates.

II. MACROECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL DATA: SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Production Index/Indices

- 2.54 The e-GDDS encourages the dissemination of a production index as a supplementary data category and, where appropriate, of several production indices, to track GDP on a more timely basis than annual or quarterly national accounts releases permit. Ideally, the coverage of the production index mirrors the coverage of productive activities in GDP and reflects a country's economic structure. However, the limited availability of timely, high-frequency data sources may narrow the scope of the production index to a country's key productive activities—indices for manufacturing or industrial production are useful indicators for GDP in some countries, commodity production indices (for example, petroleum) in others, and indices on agricultural production or other key economic activities in still others. The index or indices selected for dissemination should be the one(s) most useful as indicators for the country's production or value-added. The coverage of the index and its other characteristics should be noted in the country's metadata for posting on the DSBB. An industrial production index, for example, is to cover the output of establishments in extractive activities, manufacturing, electricity, and gas and water supply.¹⁸ To be useful, the tracking indicator should be based on a sound methodology.¹⁹
- 2.55 For developments in GDP, the e-GDDS encourages monthly periodicity for the production index (or indices). However, an “as relevant” condition is provided to recognize that in some countries, such as those where seasonal crop production is important, production may not be well represented by a monthly index.
- 2.56 Timeliness of dissemination is specified as within 12 weeks after the reference month (or period as relevant).

Labor Market

- 2.57 The e-GDDS encourages the dissemination of labor market data as a supplementary data category covering employment, unemployment, and wages/earnings on an “as relevant” basis.

¹⁸ See International Recommendations for Industrial Statistics, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division Office, Series M, No. 90 (2008), and International Recommendations for Distributive Trade Statistics, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division, Series M, No. 89 (2008). As noted in the text, production indices could cover all output as defined by the latest *SNA*, comprising goods and services from privately and publicly controlled enterprises.

¹⁹ A monthly production index should be produced in the form of a consistent time series, normalized to 100 for reference to a fixed reference period.

2.58 E-GDDS participants are encouraged to disseminate labor market data on an annual basis within three quarters after the end of the reference year. Distinct metadata should be provided on each component to be posted on the DSBB. If any of these components is not deemed relevant, reasons should be provided in the metadata.

a. Employment

2.59 Some countries compile several measures of employment, which may be based on sample surveys of households or individuals, establishment surveys, or social insurance records. The recommended measure to be disseminated should be the one that is most widely used in the country. The metadata on the DSBB should note the statistical characteristics of the measure.

2.60 The e-GDDS does not recommend a definition of employment or its components; however, it notes as best practice the concepts, definitions, and classifications of employment and unemployment provided by the International Labor Organization (ILO).²⁰ A country's metadata for this data category should note differences between the country's practices and the international guidelines.

b. Unemployment

2.61 Some countries prepare several measures of unemployment—for example, based on sample surveys of households or individuals, social insurance records, or employment office statistics. The recommended measure to be disseminated should be the one that is most widely used in the country. The metadata for the DSBB should note the statistical characteristics of the measure.

2.62 The measure may be expressed in terms of the number of unemployed or the unemployed as a percent of the labor force (unemployment rate).

2.63 The e-GDDS does not recommend a definition of unemployment or its components; however, it notes as best practices concepts, definitions, and classifications of employment and unemployment the ILO provides.²¹ A country's metadata for this data category should note differences between the country's practices and the international guidelines.

²⁰ *Current International Recommendations on Labor Statistics* (Geneva: ILO, 2000). See also *Surveys of Economically Active Population, Employment, Unemployment and Underemployment* (Geneva: ILO, 1990).

²¹ ILO, *ibid.*

c. Wages/Earnings

2.64 In the context of labor statistics, “wages” data comprise direct wages and salaries for time worked or work done, while “earnings” data (in cash and in kind) are broader, covering in addition remuneration for time not worked, bonuses, gratuities, and housing and family allowances paid by the employer to the employee. The recommended series to be disseminated should be the series most widely used within the country. The series may show average earnings or time rates of wages (preferably accompanied by hours of work data consistent with the earnings/wages data). The scope of the series may differ from country to country. The metadata for the DSBB should describe the statistical characteristics of the measure, including its coverage.

Producer or Wholesale Price Indexes

2.65 A producer price index (PPI) measures the variation over time in the prices of the outputs of market and market-valued goods and services. A wholesale price index (WPI) measures the variation over time in the prices of items at the first important commercial transaction and, as such, its concept broadly overlaps but is not identical to the concept of an intermediate consumption (input) price index. According to international recommendations, the compilation of a PPI is preferred. PPIs and WPIs differ across countries, for example, with respect to coverage of the economy (e.g., whether inclusive of mining, construction, and services) and valuation (e.g., whether inclusive of taxes net of subsidies on products, such as an input price index for intermediate consumption, or exclusive of net taxes on products, such as an output price index). If there is more than one PPI, the index recommended should be that most widely used in the country. The metadata for this data category should note the statistical characteristics of the index and whether they conform to international best or generally accepted practice.²²

2.66 E-GDDS participants are encouraged to disseminate PPI or WPI as a supplementary data category on a monthly basis within two months after the reference month.

Financial Soundness Indicators

2.67 The e-GDDS encourages the dissemination of seven FSIs for the deposit takers as a supplementary data category. FSIs were developed as a response by the international community to the financial crises in the 1990s. They were conceived as a new area of statistics—macroprudential statistics—that would fill the gap between monetary macroeconomic statistics and microprudential data in assessing the soundness of the financial sector as a whole. Derived from sector-level supervisory and prudential data, they

²² *Producer Price Index Manual: Theory and Practice* (Washington, DC: IMF, 2004). See also IMF’s DQAF at dsbb.imf.org for guidance in describing how the PPI is compiled.

complement data derived from monetary surveys as well as those from other economic sources, which were deemed insufficient. The FSI framework is broadly derived from the CAMELS²³ rating system widely used by supervisory agencies.

2.68 The selection criteria for including FSIs in the e-GDDS are based on:

- Analytical usefulness of the chosen FSIs in covering—as a set—as many of the basic aspects of financial soundness of the deposit-taking sector as possible (capital adequacy, asset quality, earnings and profitability, credit risk, liquidity risk, and market risk), while simultaneously taking into account both their perceived usefulness in the global financial crisis and their effectiveness in monitoring future crises involving different risks and vulnerabilities.
- Feasibility for countries to provide data on the proposed indicators without involving an excessive reporting burden, as well as synergies with the demands of the IMF's Global Financial Stability Report (GFSR), hence the need for parsimony and focus on the most analytically useful indicators.
- Comparative advantage of the IMF in collecting data not readily available from commercial sources.
- The e-GDDS encourages the dissemination of the following FSIs as a supplementary data category:
 - (1) regulatory Tier 1 capital to risk-weighted assets,
 - (2) regulatory Tier 1 capital to assets,
 - (3) nonperforming loans net of provisions to capital,
 - (4) nonperforming loans to total gross loans,
 - (5) return on assets,
 - (6) liquid assets to short-term liabilities, and
 - (7) net open position in foreign exchange to capital.

2.69 The e-GDDS encourages the dissemination of FSIs on a quarterly basis with one quarter timeliness.

2.70 As the national definition and methodology of compilation of FSIs often differ across countries and with respect to the methodology set out in the *FSI Compilation Guide (FSI Guide)*²⁴ and its amendments, participants are encouraged to apply the *FSI Guide's*

²³ CAMELS, which stands for capital adequacy, asset quality, management soundness, earnings, liquidity, and sensitivity to market risk, is commonly used in supervisory frameworks for grouping indicators of bank soundness.

²⁴ *Financial Soundness Indicators: Compilation Guide*:
www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fsi/guide/2008/pdf/071408.pdf

methodology as a benchmark, including any amendments that may be made to the FSI Guide in the future, in compiling these indicators.²⁵ Consistent with other e-GDDS data categories, subscribers are encouraged to report on deviations from this methodology in their metadata.

III. DEMOGRAPHIC AND SELECTED SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Population

- 2.71 The e-GDDS encourages the dissemination of data on population as an addendum to the framework. Although population data do not fit into the groupings of data categories by sector, they are useful as a scaling factor—for example, as in GDP per capita. Some countries maintain more than one set of population data; the one to be disseminated should be the series most widely used in the country. The metadata should describe the characteristics of the series, including its scope—such as whether the series represents all persons physically present (de facto population) or all usual residents (de jure population). Concepts, distributions, and characteristics have been elaborated by the UN in Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses,²⁶ which participants may use as a point of reference in preparing the metadata. The metadata for the DSBB should note differences from international guidelines, if any.
- 2.72 The data refer to the total size of the population. The e-GDDS does not prescribe component detail but encourages the dissemination of key distributions by age and sex, for example. Such distributions provide the link to an array of social statistics.
- 2.73 The e-GDDS encourages dissemination of annual data and the conducting of a census every 10 years. For annually updated population data, the e-GDDS encourages dissemination with a timeliness of 3–6 months. Census data should be disseminated within 9–12 months of completing the census.

Selected Socio-Economic Indicators

- 2.74 While dissemination monitored under the e-GDDS will not cover socio-economic indicators, participants can use the NSDP to publish such data. The predecessor GDDS framework covered a few socio-economic indicators demographic data categories in addition to population (health, poverty, and education); these indicators are not routinely

²⁵ The amendments to the *Financial Soundness Indicators: Compilation Guide* (www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fsi/guide/2008/pdf/071408.pdf) defer to the Basel Committee on Bank Standards (BCBS) (Basel I and Basel II) as the standards for compiling supervisory-based underlying data series used to compile FSIs, as well as the successive FSI's compilation guides, which will also defer to Basel III.

²⁶ See also *Supplementary Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* (New York: UN, 1990).

compiled by the authorities. Rather than re-dissemination of these data, which are available on the websites of the United Nations and World Bank, many stakeholders have suggested that the e-GDDS platform allow dissemination of socio-economic indicators as determined by country authorities or relevant agencies.

- 2.75 These could include indicators linked to the monitoring of the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Such a selection could be made in consultation with specialized United Nations agencies and multilateral/regional development banks.

IV. PLANS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- 2.76 Development plans in the e-GDDS focus on viewing the statistical system in its entirety. In this way, the task of establishing priorities is simplified, and resource allocation becomes more efficient. The development plans in the e-GDDS cover (i) a diagnosis of the current situation and the formulation of a strategic vision of future directions; (ii) the elaboration of a detailed action plan that identifies all the resources that are required to achieve the desired objectives; and (iii) the tracking of progress under these plans.
- 2.77 The e-GDDS introduces dissemination thresholds, offering a vision of statistical development as a continuum, and moving away from the view that advancement involves a jump to the SDDS. For countries participating in the e-GDDS, plans for improvement are expected to incorporate clear steps towards SDDS subscription, when relevant to the country.
- 2.78 The e-GDDS monitoring and progress described in Part IV will guide e-GDDS participants in making plans for improvement going forward.

PART III: DATA DISSEMINATION

I. DISSEMINATION STANDARDS BULLETIN BOARD

- 3.1 The IMF, as a service to its members, has established and maintains an electronic DSBB on the internet, a system to store and disseminate the metadata and the data provided by participants. The DSBB identifies the members participating in the e-GDDS and provides easy access to the members' respective metadata and data.²⁷ The responsibility for the accuracy of the metadata and of the economic, financial, and socio-demographic statistics rests with the member countries. Although participants are expected to review and update their metadata on either "best-effort" or "when-merited" basis, participants are expected to update their plans for improvement on an annual basis.
- 3.2 It is recommended that e-GDDS participants establish an NSDP on the internet, which could be linked to the DSBB electronically through hyperlinks on the latter. The NSDP should be modeled on an information-technology platform using the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX) standards as the enabler. The NSDP would have a relatively simple web layout to reduce cost. Customized to the authorities' preferences, the NSDP would feature columns indicating the e-GDDS data categories, separate hyperlinks to the authorities' dissemination sites (for example, the websites of the national statistical office, central bank, or ministry of finance) for each data category, and separate hyperlinks to the electronic SDMX data files for each data category. Alternatively, participants in the e-GDDS may also disseminate the encouraged data through an NSDP based on an ODP. This electronic platform shares similar advantages with an SDMX-based NSDP (e.g., machine-readable, push/pull capabilities; data exchange; enhanced coordination). Furthermore, participants are encouraged to disseminate on the internet an ARC showing the data release dates for the current month and for the following three months.

II. NATIONAL SUMMARY DATA PAGE

General overview

- 3.3 E-GDDS participants are recommended to disseminate data on a standardized NSDP. The standardized NSDP provides simultaneous release of human and machine readable data in a user friendly way. The NSDP is established on the internet website of one of the participant's data compiling agencies, in most cases on the website of the agency with the country coordinator role.
- 3.4 The NSDP will be accessible from a hyperlink on the IMF's DSBB where metadata for all e-GDDS participants is also published. The access to the NSDP is through a hyperlink

²⁷ The DSBB also serves the needs of the SDDS and the SDDS Plus.

located on the e-GDDS participant's index page on the DSBB, the internet address of the NSDP should be provided by the e-GDDS participant to the IMF. The e-GDDS participant is responsible to ensure that the hyperlink to the NSDP is always active, and inform the IMF of any changes to web address of the NSDP.

- 3.5 The standardized NSDP allows data to be downloaded in the SDMX format for use in other applications. SDMX is a data exchange standard based on open formats that offers many advantages to support the NSDP: (i) it provides push/pull capabilities to facilitate internal and external data exchange and coordination; (ii) it is machine readable, which will help improve efficiency of data exchange and reduce (human) errors; and (iii) it is easily accessible for users.
- 3.6 The e-GDDS participants can disseminate NSDP data in an ODP environment which facilitates the presentation of time series data both in numeric and graphic formats. This electronic platform shares similar advantages with an NSDP using SDMX technology (e.g., machine-readable, push/pull capabilities; data exchange; enhanced coordination) but automates the process of creating the needed data in SDMX formats. The ODP is a cloud-based software solution that is available to countries on the basis of an annual subscription fee.

Structure

- 3.7 The NSDP has a relatively simple web layout to reduce cost. Customized to the authorities' preferences, the NSDP features two sections: a title section and a table section. The title section identifies the e-GDDS participant and provides general information about the NSDP and its maintenance. The table section includes columns indicating the e-GDDS data categories, hyperlinks to the authorities' dissemination sites (for example, the websites of the national statistical office, central bank, or ministry of finance), hyperlinks to the electronic SDMX data files, and hyperlinks to the metadata hosted on the DSBB.
- 3.8 The title section of the NSDP includes information indicating the relationship with the DSBB. In that reference the use of the following standard text is recommended: "Data linked from this page correspond to data described in the IMF's DSBB. For a fuller explanation of the DSBB and the e-GDDS, please visit the [DSBB home page](#)." The title section could also include: (i) the country flag at the top of the page; (ii) the country name; (iii) date of last update of the NSDP; and (iv) a contact person for the NSDP.
- 3.9 The table section of the NSDP has four columns. The first column contains all e-GDDS data categories, one per line, and is divided into three parts: (i) macroeconomic and financial data: encouraged; (ii) macroeconomic and financial supplementary data; and (iii) demographic and selected socio-economic indicators. The first part includes all fifteen e-GDDS encouraged data categories: national accounts (GDP), consumer price index, general

government operations, central government operations, central government gross debt, depository corporations survey, central bank survey, interest rates, stock market (if applicable), balance of payments, external debt, official reserve assets, merchandise trade, international investment position, and exchange rates. The second part includes: production index, labor market (employment, unemployment, and wages/earnings), and financial soundness indicators. The third part includes: population and a selection of socio-demographic indicators related to the UN sustainable development goals that is chosen by the authorities.

- 3.10 The second column contains hyperlinks that give access to human readable data for the respective e-GDDS data category. These data may be published either on the website of the statistical agency which compiles and disseminates the data or on the website of the e-GDDS coordinating agency. The IMF provides technical advice for the development and maintenance of an NSDP using the ODP environment.
- 3.11 The third column of the NSDP contains hyperlinks that give access to the data for the respective e-GDDS data category in a machine readable SDMX format. This format allows users to download the data into other applications. The SDMX format will also be used by the IMF for monitoring the data releases by the e-GDDS participants. The IMF will provide technical advice for coding the e-GDDS data categories and their components using the SDMX-based coding structures.
- 3.12 The fourth column of the NSDP contains hyperlinks that give access to the metadata posted on the IMF's DSBB.
- 3.13 A sample NSDP using ODP is provided in Appendices II and III.
- 3.14 Once an e-GDDS NSDP is established, its maintenance cost is minimal, as it does not require updating when disseminating data for any e-GDDS data category; only the data hyperlinked to the NSDP require regular updating. The only time an NSDP would require updating is when modifying hyperlinks to the data in national presentation or to the data in SDMX formats. For example, if the hyperlink for a data category is to a table available from a different location on the internet should the NSDP be updated to reflect this location.

III. ADVANCE RELEASE CALENDAR

- 3.15 ARC reflect sound management and transparency of statistical compilation and provide data users with information needed to take a more active and organized approach to acquiring the inputs for their work. The objective may be met, for example, by the dissemination of calendars showing release dates for the current month and for the following three months. Agencies are encouraged to make widely known the name and address of an office or a

person who can provide the latest information about the ARC, including release of data for which periodicity and timeliness are irregular, and newly disseminated data.

3.16 To prepare for eventual subscription to the SDDS, e-GDDS participants are recommended to use in their ARCs the SDDS conventions regarding the reference periods as follow:

- Weekly: MM/DD/YY (Jan/17/16).
- Monthly: MM/YY (Jan/16).
- Quarterly: QQ/YY (Q1/16).
- Semiannual: SAX/YY (SA1/16 for the first semester; SA2/16 for the second semester).
- Annual: YYYY (2016).

Fiscal year: FYYY (FY16 for fiscal year ending in 2016).

PART IV: E-GDDS MONITORING AND PROGRESS

I. E-GDDS THRESHOLDS

- 4.1 A key feature of the e-GDDS is that it offers a vision of statistical development as a continuum, moving away from the view that advancement involves a jump to the SDDS. This continuum is marked by a sequence of three steps on an ascending ladder that bridges the gap between the previous GDDS and the SDDS. These steps are as follows (see also Box IV.1):
- **Threshold one:** Meeting the first threshold would involve disseminating—at least quarterly—through the NSDP the 15 encouraged data categories according to the coverage, periodicity, and timeliness set in metadata, some which falls short of the e-GDDS framework.
 - **Threshold two:** Meeting the second threshold would involve disseminating the 15 encouraged data categories according to the coverage, periodicity, and timeliness recommended under the e-GDDS, with monthly updating of the NSDP.
 - **Threshold three:** Meeting the third threshold would involve disseminating the 15 encouraged data categories according to, or better than the coverage, periodicity, and timeliness equal or better than recommended under the e-GDDS and in line with an ARC, while maintaining an up-to-date NSDP. Participants meeting this threshold are nearing the requirements of the SDDS.
- 4.2 The e-GDDS recognizes that participants may not be at Threshold one at the time of committing to implement the e-GDDS. Accordingly, in order to provide a clear progression map, participants may consider two intermediate steps outside the thresholds: Baseline one and Baseline two:
- **Baseline one:** Participants that disseminate less than 10 of the 15 data categories; and
 - **Baseline two:** Participants that disseminate 10 to 14 of the 15 data categories, or disseminate 15 categories but don't meet the NSDP or ARC requirements of the thresholds above.
- 4.3 All countries that were participating in the GDDS were ranked between the baselines and thresholds above after the launch of the e-GDDS.

II. PROGRESS WITHIN E-GDDS

- 4.4 Participants should make best efforts to disseminate the data as required under the e-GDDS and continue to make progress based on plans for improvements. They are encouraged to discuss data and dissemination issues as well as progress with staff during Article IV consultations missions.

- 4.5 Given the three thresholds defined in the e-GDDS, progress within the e-GDDS is measured and assessed against the criteria of each threshold once e-GDDS participants disseminate data via the NSDP. By comparing the status for each country in terms of data categories, periodicity, timeliness, NSDP, and ARC with the threshold where the country meets and higher thresholds, progress is identified and reported in an annual report and a brief semiannual update.
- 4.6 The e-GDDS emphasizes dissemination using the NSDP and in accordance with an ARC; and the dissemination of data categories referred to above should be through these instruments. Once a participant has reached Threshold three, where all 15 data categories are being disseminated through an NSDP in accordance to an ARC it should be regarded as near ready to consider the developments for subscription to the SDDS.
- 4.7 The e-GDDS thus sets a continuous path to readiness for eventual graduation to the SDDS through three thresholds, but more requirements have to be met for an e-GDDS participant to become an SDDS subscriber. By introducing these thresholds, the e-GDDS offers a vision of statistical development as a continuum, but not necessarily a “jump” to the SDDS. The e-GDDS plans for improvement should be oriented towards meeting SDDS requirements, where relevant.

III. AUTOMATED MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

- 4.8 Once e-GDDS participants disseminate data via the NSDP, IMF staff will assess progress against the core data categories, making reference to periodicity and timeliness, in an annual report and a brief semiannual update. For each participant, IMF staff also would make a judgment as to what threshold is met by the participant. A table on the status of each country with an NSDP would be posted on the DSBB, and a short summary on data dissemination issues would also be included in the Statistical Issues Appendix (SIA) accompanying each Article IV consultation staff report. In the context of the Article IV consultations, staff will be expected to discuss the constraints to data dissemination and, where appropriate, report their findings, the authorities’ views, and remedial measures in the Article IV consultation staff report. While socio-economic data categories are part of the e-GDDS framework, they would not be subject to monitoring.

Box IV.1 e-GDDS: Graphical Presentation of Monitoring

GDDS	e-GDDS (thresholds for promoting graduation to the SDDS)			SDDS
	Threshold 1	Threshold 2	Threshold 3	
Disseminate metadata and plans for improvement.	Disseminate metadata and plans for improvement.	Disseminate metadata and plans for improvement.	Disseminate metadata and plans for improvement.	Disseminate metadata.
	Disseminate encouraged data categories according to coverage, periodicity, and timeliness set in metadata, at least some of which falls short of the e-GDDS framework (Table 1).	Disseminate encouraged data categories according to coverage, periodicity, and timeliness recommended under the e-GDDS (Table 1).	Disseminate encouraged data categories according to coverage, periodicity, and timeliness equal or better than recommended under the e-GDDS (Table 1).	Disseminate encouraged data categories plus additional data categories.
	Maintain an NSDP with quarterly updating, or more often if warranted.	Maintain an NSDP with monthly updating, or more often if warranted.	Maintain an up-to-date NSDP.	Maintain an up-to-date NSDP consistent with commitments.
			Observe an ARC covering all encouraged data	Observe an ARC covering all SDDS data.

Note: NSDP refers to the National Summary Data Page and ARC to the Advance Release Calendar.

4.9 IMF staff will prepare annual reports and semiannual updates on the performance of the e-GDDS participants in complying with the timeliness and periodicity specified for each of the 15 data categories. These reports will importantly point out the deviations of the data disseminated from the timeliness and periodicity norms. The reports will be sent to the e-GDDS coordinators, and only the annual reports for a fiscal year will be posted on the DSBB at the beginning of the following fiscal year.

IV. PARTICIPATION AND WITHDRAWAL FROM THE E-GDDS

4.10 Participation in the e-GDDS by IMF member countries is voluntary. It requires that a country undertake three actions relative to the system, and participation depends on completion of these actions. These actions involve the following:

- (i) a commitment to using the e-GDDS as a framework for the development of their national systems for the production and dissemination of macroeconomic and financial data;
- (ii) designation of a country coordinator to work with IMF staff; and

(iii) preparation of descriptions ("metadata") of (a) current statistical production and dissemination practices and (b) plans for short-and longer-term improvements that would be disseminated by the IMF. Participants also are expected to describe recently implemented improvements. The descriptions of current practices and plans would correspond to each of the objectives for the data, coverage, periodicity and timeliness, access, integrity, and quality dimensions (using the DQAF). The plans would identify the major shortcomings relative to the objectives set out in the e-GDDS; the steps by which the shortcomings would be addressed; the resources, including technical assistance, necessary to achieve the improvements; and the time frame during which the improvements would be achieved. In particular, the improvements to be undertaken within the next year and within two to five years would need to be identified.

- 4.11 Participation in the e-GDDS is publicly recognized by the IMF when the metadata is posted on the DSBB. At any time before the completion of such actions, members may indicate their intent to participate by sending an appropriate communication to the IMF, which will provide the basis for work with the member on the actions involved in participation. A country could opt for participation from the outset, move gradually toward participation, or continue to work with the IMF on the improvement of national systems for the production and dissemination of statistics, as in the past, without participation. Member countries cannot participate in both the e-GDDS and the SDDS at the same time.
- 4.12 E-GDDS participants may withdraw participation at any time, but the IMF encourages participants to make the best efforts to remain in the framework given the “global public good” of statistics. E-GDDS participants may do so by sending an appropriate communication to the IMF. Upon withdrawal, relevant data and metadata would be removed promptly from the DSBB.

V. GRADUATION TO THE SDDS

- 4.13 To meet the requirements of the SDDS, e-GDDS participants not only need to disseminate all TCIRS data, but also additional data categories required under the SDDS (see Table IV.2). The e-GDDS participants are encouraged to disseminate 15 categories while SDDS subscribers are required to disseminate 19 categories. In particular, production index, labor market, producer price index that are considered to be supplementary data categories and the template on international reserves and foreign currency liquidity that are not required to be disseminated under the e-GDDS are required to be disseminated under the SDDS. Both the e-GDDS and SDDS encourage the dissemination of FSIs.
- 4.14 E-GDDS participants have to meet more stringent coverage periodicity and timeliness requirements for most data categories in order to graduate to the SDDS. With the exception of national accounts and balance of payments, e-GDDS participants need to improve periodicity or timeliness or both in all other data categories.

4.15 To graduate to the SDDS e-GDDS participants should also meet more demanding ARC requirements. ARCs are required for all SDDS data categories, except for the encouraged categories, and for those data categories disseminated daily: interest rates, stock market (share price index), and exchange rates.

4.16 More information on the requirements of the SDDS is available in the [SDDS Guide](#).

Table IV.2. SDDS and e-GDDS: Comparison of Coverage, Periodicity, and Timeliness

Data categories	SDDS			e-GDDS		
	Required	Periodicity	Timeliness	Encouraged	Periodicity	Timeliness
National accounts	Yes	Q	1Q	Yes	Q	1Q
Production Index	Yes	M	6W	Supplementary ¹	M	12W
Labor market	Yes	Q	1Q	Supplementary ¹	A	3Q
Consumer price index	Yes	M	1M	Yes	M	2M
Producer price index	Yes	M	1M	Supplementary ¹	M	2M
General government operations	Yes	A	2Q	Yes	A	3Q
Central government operations	Yes	M	1M	Yes	Q	1Q
Central government debt	Yes	Q	1Q	Yes	Q	2Q
Depository corporations survey	Yes	M	1M	Yes	M	1Q
Central bank survey	Yes	M	2W	Yes	M	2M
Interest rates	Yes	D	...	Yes	M	...
Stock market	Yes	D	...	Yes	M	...
Balance of payments	Yes	Q	1Q	Yes	Q	1Q
External debt	Yes	Q	1Q	Yes	Q	2Q
Official reserve assets	Yes	M	1W	Yes	M	1M
Template on International Reserves and Foreign Currency Liquidity	Yes	M	1M	Not applicable ²
Merchandise trade	Yes	M	8W	Yes	M	12W
International investment position	Yes	Q	1Q	Yes	A	3Q
Exchange rates	Yes	D	...	Yes	D	...

¹Dissemination of supplementary data categories is also encouraged, if available.

²Participants in the e-GDDS would not be required to disseminate the Template on International Reserves.

APPENDIX I: TABLE OF COMMON INDICATORS REQUIRED FOR SURVEILLANCE

	Date of latest Observation	Date Received	Frequency of Data ⁷	Frequency of Reporting ⁷	Frequency of Publication ⁷	Memo Items: Data Quality ⁸
						Methodological Soundness ⁹ Accuracy and Reliability ⁹
Exchange Rates						
Liabilities of the Monetary Authorities ¹						
Reserve/Base Money						
Broad Money						
Central Bank Balance Sheet						
Consolidated Balance Sheet of the Banking System						
Interest Rates ²						
Consumer Price Index						
Revenue, Expenditure, Balance and Composition of Financing ³ –General Government ⁴						
Revenue, Expenditure, Balance and Composition of Financing ³ –Central Government						
Stocks of Central Government and Central Government-Guaranteed Debt ⁵						
External Current Account Balance						
Exports and Imports of Goods and Services						
GDP/GNP						
Gross External Debt						
International Investment Position ⁶						

¹Any reserve assets that are pledged or otherwise encumbered should be specified separately. Also, data should comprise short-term liabilities linked to a foreign currency but settled by other means as well as the notional values of financial derivatives to pay and to receive foreign currency, including those linked to a foreign currency but settled by other means.

²Both market-based and officially-determined, including discount rates, money market rates, rates on treasury bills, notes and bonds.

³Foreign, domestic bank, and domestic nonbank financing.

⁴The general government consists of the central government (budgetary funds, extra budgetary funds, and social security funds) and state and local governments.

⁵Including currency and maturity composition.

⁶Includes external gross financial assets and liability positions vis-à-vis nonresidents.

⁷Daily (D); weekly (W); monthly (M); quarterly (Q); annually (A); irregular (I); and not available (NA).

⁸Reflects the assessment provided in the data ROSC or the Substantive Update (published in July 2010, and based on the findings of the mission that took place during December 09-22, 2009) for the dataset corresponding to the variable in each row. The assessment indicates whether international standards concerning concepts and definitions, scope, classification/sectorization, and basis for recording are fully observed (O); largely observed (LO); largely not observed (LNO); not observed (NO); and not available (NA).

⁹Same as footnote 7, except referring to international standards concerning source data, statistical techniques, assessment and validation of source data, and revision studies.

APPENDIX II: NATIONAL SUMMARY DATA PAGE

Data linked from this page correspond to data described in the IMF's DSBB. For a fuller explanation of the DSBB and the e-GDDS in which a Country participates, please visit the [DSBB home page](#).

Macroeconomic and Financial Data Encouraged Data



National Accounts (GDP)	Browse Data	Download in SDMX	DSBB Metadata
Consumer Price Index	Browse Data	Download in SDMX	DSBB Metadata
General Government Operations			DSBB Metadata
Central Government Operations	Browse Data	Download in SDMX	DSBB Metadata
Central Government Gross Debt	Browse Data	Download in SDMX	DSBB Metadata
Depository Corporations Survey	Browse Data	Download in SDMX	DSBB Metadata
Central Bank Survey	Browse Data	Download in SDMX	DSBB Metadata
Interest Rates	Browse Data	Download in SDMX	DSBB Metadata

Stock Market	Browse Data	Download in SDMX	DSBB Metadata
Balance of Payments	Browse Data	Download in SDMX	DSBB Metadata
External Debt	Browse Data	Download in SDMX	DSBB Metadata
Official Reserve Assets	Browse Data	Download in SDMX	DSBB Metadata
Merchandise Trade	Browse Data	Download in SDMX	DSBB Metadata
International Investment Position	Browse Data	Download in SDMX	DSBB Metadata
Exchange Rates	Browse Data	Download in SDMX	DSBB Metadata

Macroeconomic and Financial Data: Supplementary Data

Production Index

[Browse Data](#)

[Download in SDMX](#)

[DSBB
Metadata](#)

Labor Market

[Browse Data](#)

[Download in SDMX](#)

[DSBB
Metadata](#)

Producer Price Index

[DSBB
Metadata](#)

Financial Soundness Indicators

Demographic and Selected Socio-Economic Indicators

Population

[Browse Data](#)

[Download in SDMX](#)

[DSBB
Metadata](#)

Socio-Demographic Indicators

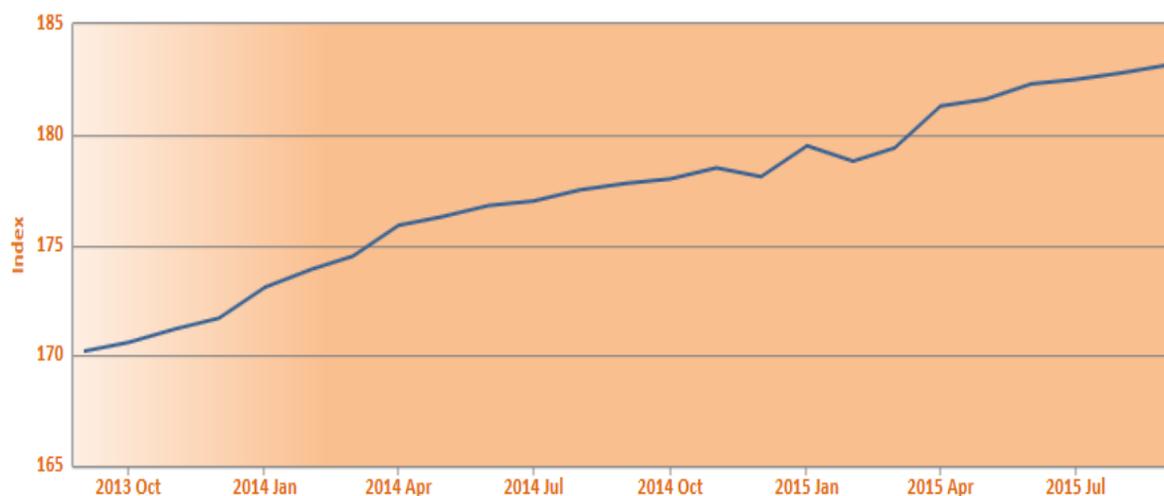
APPENDIX III: ODP PRESENTATION OF THE E-GDDS DATA CATEGORY CPI

★ Consumer Price Index

● CPI

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Prices, Consumer Price Index, All items, Index



(select an indicator)

	ar	2015 Apr	2015 May	2015 Jun	2015 Jul	2015 Aug	2015 Sep
Prices, Consumer Price Index, All items, Index	00	181.300	181.600	182.300	182.500	182.800	183.155
Food and non-alcoholic beverages, Actual	00	196.700	196.800	196.600	196.800	197.100	197.479
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco, and Narcotics, Actual	00	260.600	261.300	261.700	262.100	262.600	260.812
Clothing and footwear, Actual	00	171.100	172.100	173.300	174.000	175.400	176.567
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels, Actual	00	168.300	168.100	171.000	171.100	171.200	175.333
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance, Actual	00	185.100	185.600	186.900	187.100	187.600	188.990
Health, Actual	00	167.900	171.900	172.200	172.600	172.700	173.000
Transport, Actual	00	164.300	164.300	164.400	164.600	164.600	162.800
Communication, Actual	00	92.100	92.600	92.500	92.500	92.500	92.500
Recreation and culture, Actual	00	150.900	151.300	151.300	151.500	151.500	151.700
Education, Actual	00	169.500	169.500	169.500	169.500	169.800	169.800
Restaurants and hotels, Actual	00	237.100	237.700	239.200	239.600	240.400	241.200
Miscellaneous goods and services, Actual	00	148.000	148.000	148.700	148.700	148.900	149.000

Source: [Consumer Price Index](#)

**APPENDIX IV: DATA QUALITY ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK – GENERIC
FRAMEWORK MAY 2012**

Quality Dimensions	Elements	Indicators
0. Prerequisites of quality	0.1 Legal and institutional environment— <i>The environment is supportive of statistics.</i>	0.1.1 The responsibility for collecting, processing, and disseminating the statistics is clearly specified. 0.1.2 Data sharing and coordination among data producing agencies are adequate. 0.1.3 Individual reporters' data are kept confidential and used for statistical purposes only. 0.1.4 Statistical reporting is ensured through legal mandate and/or measures to encourage response.
	0.2 Resources— <i>Resources are commensurate with needs of statistical programs.</i>	0.2.1 Staff, facilities, computing resources, and financing are commensurate with statistical programs. 0.2.2 Measures to ensure efficient use of resources are implemented.
	0.3 Relevance— <i>Statistics cover relevant information on the subject field.</i>	0.3.1 The relevance and practical utility of existing statistics in meeting users' needs are monitored.
	0.4 Other quality management— <i>Quality is a cornerstone of statistical work.</i>	0.4.1 Processes are in place to focus on quality. 0.4.2 Processes are in place to monitor quality during the planning and implementation of the statistical program.
1. Assurances of integrity <i>The principle of objectivity in the collection, processing, and dissemination of statistics is firmly adhered to.</i>	1.1 Institutional integrity— <i>Statistical policies and practices are guided by professional principles.</i>	1.1.1 Statistics are produced on an impartial basis. 1.1.2 Choices of data sources and statistical techniques as well as decisions about

		<p>dissemination are informed solely by statistical considerations.</p> <p>1.1.3 The appropriate statistical entity is entitled to comment on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics.</p>
	<p>1.2 Transparency—<i>Statistical policies and practices are transparent.</i></p>	<p>1.2.1 The terms and conditions under which statistics are collected, processed, and disseminated are available to the public.</p> <p>1.2.2 Internal governmental access to statistics prior to their release is publicly identified.</p> <p>1.2.3 Products of statistical agencies/units are clearly identified as such.</p> <p>1.2.4 Advance notice is given of major changes in methodology, source data, and statistical techniques.</p>
	<p>1.3 Ethical standards—<i>Policies and practices are guided by ethical standards.</i></p>	<p>1.3.1 Guidelines for staff behavior are in place and are well known to the staff.</p>
<p>2. Methodological soundness <i>The methodological basis for the statistics follows internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices.</i></p>	<p>2.1 Concepts and definitions—<i>Concepts and definitions used are in accord with internationally accepted statistical frameworks.</i></p>	<p>2.1.1 The overall structure in terms of concepts and definitions follows internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices.</p>
	<p>2.2 Scope—<i>The scope is in accord with internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices.</i></p>	<p>2.2.1 The scope is broadly consistent with internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices.</p>
	<p>2.3 Sectorization and classification—<i>Sectorization and classification systems are in accord with</i></p>	<p>2.3.1 Sectorization and classification systems used are broadly consistent with internationally accepted</p>

	<i>internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices.</i>	standards, guidelines, or good practices.
	2.4 Basis for recording— <i>Flows and stocks are valued and recorded according to internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices.</i>	2.4.1 Market prices are used to value flows and stocks. 2.4.2 Recording is done on an accrual basis. 2.4.3 Grossing/netting procedures are broadly consistent with internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices.
3. Accuracy and reliability <i>Source data and statistical techniques are sound, and statistical outputs sufficiently portray reality.</i>	3.1 Source data— <i>Source data available provide an adequate basis to compile statistics.</i>	3.1.1 Source data are obtained from comprehensive data collection programs that take into account country specific conditions. 3.1.2 Source data reasonably approximate the definitions, scope, sectorization, classifications, valuation, and time of recording required. 3.1.3 Source data are timely.
	3.2 Assessment of source data— <i>Source data are regularly assessed.</i>	3.2.1 Source data—including censuses, sample surveys, and administrative records—are routinely assessed—for example, for coverage, sample error, response error, and non-sampling error; the results of the assessments are monitored and made available to guide statistical processes.
	3.3 Statistical techniques— <i>Statistical techniques employed conform to sound statistical procedures.</i>	3.3.1 Data compilation employs sound statistical techniques to deal with data sources. 3.3.2 Other statistical procedures (e.g., data

		adjustments and transformations, and statistical analysis) employ sound statistical techniques.
	3.4 Assessment and validation of intermediate data and statistical outputs— <i>Intermediate results and statistical outputs are regularly assessed and validated.</i>	3.4.1 Intermediate results are validated against other information where applicable. 3.4.2 Statistical discrepancies in intermediate data are assessed and investigated. 3.4.3 Statistical discrepancies and other potential indicators or problems in statistical outputs are investigated.
	3.5 Revision studies— <i>Revisions, as a gauge of reliability, are tracked and mined for the information they may provide.</i>	3.5.1 Studies and analyses of revisions and/or updates are carried out and used internally to inform statistical processes (see also 4.3.3).
4. Serviceability <i>Statistics, with adequate periodicity and timeliness, are consistent and follow a predictable revisions policy.</i>	4.1 Periodicity and timeliness— <i>Periodicity and timeliness follow internationally accepted dissemination standards.</i>	4.1.1 Periodicity follows dissemination standards. 4.1.2 Timeliness follows dissemination standards.
	4.2 Consistency— <i>Statistics are consistent within the dataset, over time, and with major data sets.</i>	4.2.1 Statistics are consistent within the data set. 4.2.2 Statistics are consistent or reconcilable over a reasonable period of time. 4.2.3 Statistics are consistent or reconcilable with those obtained through other data sources and/or statistical frameworks.
	4.3 Revision policy and practice— <i>Data revisions follow a regular and publicized procedure.</i>	4.3.1 Revisions and/or updates follow a regular and transparent schedule. 4.3.2 Preliminary and/or revised/updated data are clearly identified. 4.3.3 Studies and analyses of

		revisions are made public (see also 3.5.1).
5. Accessibility <i>Data and metadata are easily available, and assistance to users is adequate.</i>	5.1 Data accessibility— <i>Statistics are presented in a clear and understandable manner, forms of dissemination are adequate, and statistics are made available on an impartial basis.</i>	5.1.1 Statistics are presented in a way that facilitates proper interpretation and meaningful comparisons (layout and clarity of text, tables, and charts). 5.1.2 Dissemination media and format are adequate. 5.1.3 Statistics are released on a preannounced schedule. 5.1.4 Statistics are made available to all users at the same time. 5.1.5 Statistics not routinely disseminated are made available upon request
	5.2 Metadata accessibility— <i>Up-to-date and pertinent metadata are made available.</i>	5.2.1 Documentation on concepts, scope, classifications, basis of recording, data sources, and statistical techniques is available, and differences from internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices are annotated. 5.2.2 Levels of detail are adapted to the needs of the intended audience.
	5.3 Assistance to users— <i>Prompt and knowledgeable support service is available.</i>	5.3.1 Contact points are publicized. 5.3.2 Publications, documents, and other services, including information on any charges, are widely available.