

SDMX Global Data Structure Definitions (DSDs)

- Since 2011, SDMX has brought together the technical and statistical world in several domains to work on “Global DSDs”
- SDMX promotes the harmonisation of data exchange through the use of standards, to improve on the heterogenous reporting methods that we have today
- Global DSDs improve many aspects of data exchange, including:
 - Better timeliness by allowing data queries rather than sending data many times
 - Avoid the burden of maintaining many different reporting systems and exchange agreements
 - Save money by reusing IT systems, standards, and methodology

Global DSD History: National Accounts

- First Global DSD in production (2013 Q3)
- ECB, Eurostat (project manager), OECD in technical working group:
 - Design the reporting structures (DSD)
 - Create guideline documentation for implementation
 - Respond to change requests from the international community
- Shares many aspects with other Global DSDs
 - Code List sharing
 - Uses the same governance and maintenance principles
 - “Macro-Economic Ownership Group” makes decisions on National Accounts, BOP, FDI, GFS Global DSDs
 - Makes decisions on recommendations from technical group
 - OECD is Chair
- Works with Task Force for International Data Cooperation to:
 - Design efficient data flows between organisations
 - Pilot the implementation of the Global DSD
 - Put the Global DSD into production in an internationally coordinated manner

Global DSDs as Enablers

- Immediate benefits of Global DSDs:
 - Agreed reporting structures across international community
 - Guidelines for implementation allows easy understanding
 - Agreed maintenance cycle avoids unexpected changes
 - Clear for reporters how to provide the data using free SDMX tools
- Some benefits became clear later:
 - Governance framework is proven to be very effective
 - SDMX design methodology is reusable and now standardised in the SDMX guidelines
 - A harmonised reporting framework allows coordinated implementation groups, and a clear implementation roadmap
 - Much clearer dependencies between the reporting template (DSD) and the implementation of it
 - Easier links to other statistics that use SDMX
 - Allows a “cascading” data collection model
 - Avoids reporting same data to different organisations
 - Ability to report to one organisation who can forward it to the relevant organisation

SDMX for Development Indicators

- MDG Indicators DSD created in 2007
- Data and metadata exchange on development indicators between UNSD and 11 countries
- Facilitated comparison and analysis of national and international MDG indicators using the CountryData comparison tool

SDMX for Sustainable Development Goals

- Working Group on SDMX for SDG Indicators established by IAEG-SDGs to improve the quality and standardisation of the SDG indicators
- Working group composed of 12 countries, 10 international agencies. Chaired by Columbia, UNSD is the secretariat. First meeting October 2016
- Group mandate:
 - Develop a Global DSD for SDG indicators
 - Run a pilot and establish data exchange mechanisms for reporting and dissemination of SDG indicators at national, region, global level
- Pilot data exchange: 2018 Q1; Production: 2018 Q4
- **Interesting challenge:** The SDGs require national customisation, therefore the DSD must allow local adaptations

Status of Global DSDs

Domains/Reporting frameworks

IN PRODUCTION	PUBLICATION DATE
National Accounts (including Gov. Finance Statistics)	2013 Q3
Balance of Payments	2014 Q1
Foreign Direct Investment	2014 Q1
IN PROGRESS	
International Merchandise Trade Statistics	2017 Q4
Price statistics	2017 Q4
Labour statistics	2017 Q4
Education	2017 Q4
Sustainable Development Goals	2018 Q3
R&D Statistics	To be decided
Environmental-Economic Accounts	To be decided
Energy Statistics	Envisaged