Improving Services Data Collection in Least-Developed and Low-Income Countries

Toolkit

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US University of Sussex CARIS – Centre for the Analysis of Regional Integration at Sussex

This toolkit is published as part of the "Support to Enhance Development of Trade in Services Negotiations" initiative jointly undertaken by ILEAP, CUTS International Geneva and the University of Sussex's CARIS. It aims to contribute to the increased and more effective participation of Least Developed, Low and Lower-Middle Income Countries and their Regional Economic Communities in multilateral, regional and bilateral services trade negotiations.

The initiative promotes understanding among policy makers, regulators and negotiators about their services sectors and the role that trade negotiations can play in pursuing their strategic interests therein.

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Introduction

A recent study by Shingal (2015) re-affirmed that despite the availability of new data from the World Bank[1], the coverage of services trade, both aggregate and at the sector level, remains a challenge for least developed and low-income countries (LDCs & LICs) especially in terms of their bilateral trade flows amongst each other. The study went on to identify a number of good practices in LDC/LIC services trade statistics compilation. In what follows, building on this earlier work, we suggest a toolkit for improving services trade data collection in LDCs and LICs.
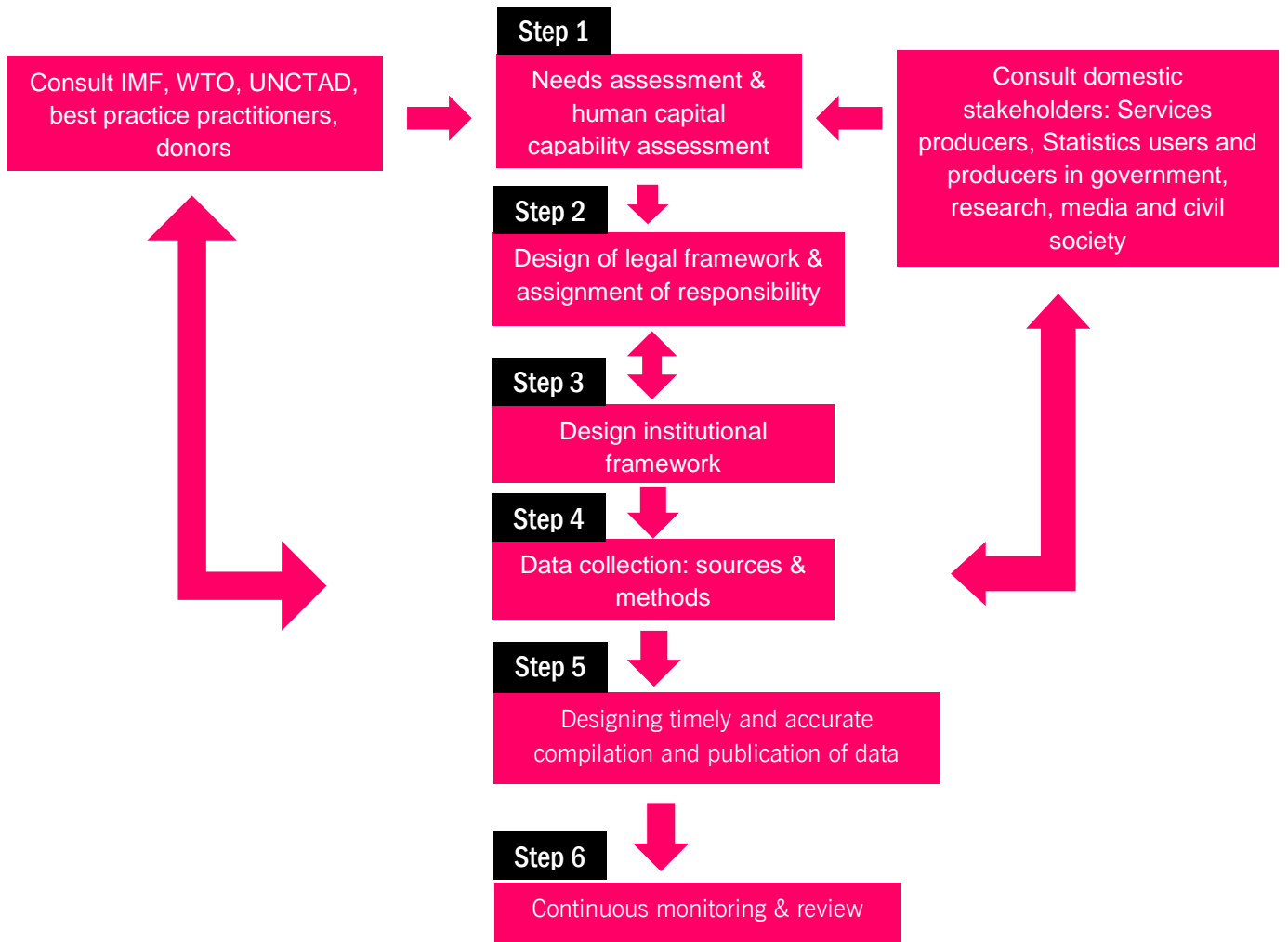
The audience for this toolkit includes central banks, national statistical institutes (NSIs) and statistics ministries/agencies in LDCs and LICs, as well as trade and development practitioners and policy-makers internationally, given the challenge of improving services trade data collection and reporting in non-OECD countries.

Figure 1 draws on the quantitative and qualitative analyses in Shingal (2015). It suggests a sequenced process for implementing an initiative to improve the collection of trade in services data based on the recent efforts of selected LDCs & LICs. The purpose is to illustrate effective practices which other low income countries have used to improve their data collection incrementally. The intention is to encourage countries setting out on the journey towards better trade in services data collection (or those already with some momentum therein) to start with the highest priority or lowest implementation costs (low hanging fruit). The approach outlined in Figure 1 is designed to be extensible as experience grows and as priorities shift as new services providers enter the trade arena.

To emphasize the point: the strategy we recommend here is one of starting with low hanging fruit and with existing and major services providers (and sectors) and gradually extending the process to newly emerging service providers/sectors and to more challenging measurement issues. Importantly, the last box with the rubric of "continuous monitoring and review" is crucial to the strategic approach. In countries with rapid growth the economic landscape will change very rapidly both in terms of collection technologies and in the increased diversity of services providers and sectors. Keeping up with that process of change will be a major challenge, but essential for improved services data collection to materialize, and for that data to better assist policymakers and negotiators in their work. Similarly, embedding these efforts in national planning and budget processes will help to promote sustainability over the longer-term.

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[1] http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/trade-in-services

FIGURE 1: SCHEMATIC FLOW DIAGRAM OF ACTIONS AND SEQUENCING TO IMPROVE THE COLLECTION OF TRADE IN SERVICES DATA

Consult IMF, WTO, UNCTAD, best practice practitioners, donors

Step 1
Needs assessment & human capital capability assessment

Consult domestic stakeholders: Services producers, Statistics users and producers in government, research, media and civil society

Step 2
Design of legal framework & assignment of responsibility

Step 3
Design institutional framework

Step 4
Data collection: sources & methods

Step 5
Designing timely and accurate compilation and publication of data

Step 6
Continuous monitoring & review

Needs Assessment: Looking for Inspiration and Assistance

In terms of data collection and reporting, LDCs/LICs typically suffer from inadequate human capital (both in terms of supply and skills), insufficient financial resources and deficient data collection characterized by lower coverage of sample populations, unrepresentative samples, poor sampling techniques, etc. Some "better performing" countries in terms of services trade data availability such as Afghanistan and Cambodia have benefitted from technical assistance (TA) and capacity building programmes/projects (CBP) either in the context of regional integration efforts or as a part of bilateral initiatives to address these shortcomings.

For instance, pilot surveys are currently underway in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar to improve services trade data availability in specific sectors (and then replicate the process in other sectors) with support under the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area Economic Cooperation Work Programme (AANZFTA ECWP).

In addition, ASEAN countries have also benefitted from the € 7.5 million EU-ASEAN Capacity Building Project for Monitoring Integration Progress and Statistics (COMPASS), 2014-2018, the first purpose of which is to support the development of the ASEAN Community Statistical System through annual data collection and increasing countries' capacity to compile data.

A core component of this project is the improvement of services trade statistics, which is being achieved by:

● providing advisory services, studies, study tours, seminars and workshops;

● facilitating short-term mobility from the more developed ASEAN member states for delivering on-the-spot training in the less developed ASEAN member states;

● establishing a facility to support a long-term human resource development programme to allow staff from the less developed ASEAN member states to access higher education curriculum in statistics in the more developed ASEAN member states.

Other outputs under the aegis of this project include:

● Supporting the implementation of the ASEAN committee's objectives in the statistics on international trade in services (SITS) field

● Facilitating the participation of ASEAN member states and ASEANstats to international meetings in the SITS field

● Regional training/workshop on specific issues in the SITS field

● Technical assistance to ASEANstats on SITS production and dissemination

● Assistance in assessing data quality of SITS

● National training/workshop on specific issues in the SITS field

● Provision of technical assistance to Cambodia, Lao P.D.R., Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) in the SITS field

● Provision of technical assistance to non-CLMV in the SITS field

● Facilitation of a study visit to a developed ASEAN member state for CLMV in the SITS field

Both Lao PDR and Myanmar in particular are expected to benefit from these TA and CBP in their services data collection and reporting efforts. This provides but one replicable example of how external support can be marshalled to help improve services data collection and compilation in LDCs/LICs. More details on this project can be accessed at http://compass.asean.org/activities/international-merchandise-trade-statistics/.

Similarly, Afghanistan that has been amongst the better LDC/LIC performers in providing disaggregated services trade data and for which data are only available since 2008, is also reported to have benefitted from the support that the country has received more widely under the EU's TA and CBP to work more closely with the IMF to improve its data collection and reporting.

SUGGESTIONS

HOW TO UNDERTAKE A NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND SECURE SUPPORT:[2]

● Conduct an initial needs assessment exercise in collaboration with a bilateral, regional or multilateral donor to identify aspects of services trade data collection and compilation that would benefit from targeted donor funding and then channel donor funding to those priority aspects

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[2] While aimed at circumstances where such efforts are commencing, various elements of these suggestions may also be incorporated into existing efforts to improve services trade data collection.

● With a view to longer-term sustainability, ensure efforts are adequately prioritized domestically and embedded in national planning and budget processes

● Attend trainings organized by international statistical and trade organizations such as UNSD, UNCTAD, IMF, ITC, World Bank, OECD and the WTO

● Make experts at these trainings aware of the data reporting challenges in your country

● Organize meetings with country representatives of these organizations in your country to make them aware of these data reporting challenges

● Follow-up with experts and country representatives for technical and financial assistance to improve statistical reporting

● Facilitate meetings between central banks, NSIs and international organizations; where relevant, include potential 'users' of improved services trade data, such as officials from the Ministry of Trade/Commerce

● Seek advisory services, studies, study tours, seminars and workshops

● Include provisions on improving statistical coverage in regional and bilateral trade agreements

● Facilitate short-term mobility from international organizations and more developed regional/bilateral trading partners to deliver on-the-spot trainings in your country

● Establish a facility to support a long-term human resource development programme to allow staff from your country to access higher education curriculum in statistics in the more developed regional/bilateral trading partner

● Prepare survey formats and instructions in collaboration with the IMF experts

For an example of the type of meeting that could be catalyzed under such efforts, see the final report of a seminar on SITS organized by the UN Statistics Division and the General Statistics Office of Vietnam:
http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/Workshops/hanoi2010/docs/SITS_Hanoi2010_Report.pdf
. LDCs/LICs could refer to this document to get comprehensive information on the relevant issues as well as a list of contact points that they can write to for support and for organizing a similar workshop in their own country.

Designing the Legal Framework

The presence of enabling legislative provisions is an indispensable attribute for compiling good quality services data. This includes a legal requirement for commercial banks to report BOP data to central banks/NSI) and a confidentiality provision to enable individual companies to make these data available to commercial banks. For greatest effect, the latter may include provisions that would prevent reported data from being used for "other" (non-statistical purposes) or being shared with "other" agencies/organizations. This is particularly relevant for micro and small service providers who may opt not to report in hopes of avoiding attention from revenue authorities.[3]

SUGGESTIONS

HOW TO DEVELOP/STENGTHEN ENABLING LEGAL PROVISIONS

- Draft and implement national laws to assign responsibility and provide authority to central banks and NSIs for collecting and compiling statistics
- Draft and implement national laws to provide authority to central banks for collecting information from individuals, corporations or foreign exchange banks on international transactions for the purpose of compiling BOP statistics
- Draft and implement national laws to ensure confidentiality to enable individual companies to make data available to commercial banks
- Draft and implement national laws to ensure that the information collected will be used only for statistical purposes and ensure the strict prohibition of officials involved in foreign exchange transaction work from divulging information and using information for other purposes
- Impose a penalty on banks for non-compliance with reporting requirements;

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[3] It is worthwhile noting that despite best efforts to ensure reporter confidentiality and maximize participation, other factors may undermine such efforts. For example, Primack and Kanyangoga (2014) note the distortionary impact of Rwanda's VAT laws, which do not offer services exporters who deliver their services from within Rwanda the same zero-rating enjoyed by goods exporters and services exporters who physically render their services abroad. For example, if one emailed network design plans from one's office in Kigali to a customer in Kenya, this would not be considered a services export eligible for zero-rating. However, if one drove across the border to Burundi to send the plans, then this activity would be considered eligible for zero rating. As long as such distortions remain, the dynamic, mostly small services exporting firms (IT in this case) are likely to exert efforts to remain below the radar and irrespective of the survey design, one would not be able to capture their input.

● Impose a penalty for non-compliance with maintaining data confidentiality

In terms of model laws, some examples can be found in South Korea including the Bank of Korea Act, the Foreign Exchange Transaction Act, and the Statistics Law. The Statistical Act of the Republic of Korea can be accessed at:
https://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/ELECTRONIC/78389/83811/F364134453/KOR78389.pdf

In terms of penalties, for instance, Afghanistan's central bank, Da Afghanistan Bank, is empowered by a law (Article 123, Section 7) allowing "sanctions" against banks for not complying with the reporting requirements. A penalty of 12,500 Afghanis per report per day for missing reports and the same amount per mistake is applied.

The English translation of the Banking Law of Afghanistan can be accessed here:
http://dab.gov.af/Content/Media/Documents/BankingLawofAfghanistanEnglishTranslation6122015122139846553325325.pdf

The Afghanistan Bank Law can be accessed here:
http://dab.gov.af/Content/Media/Documents/DABLaw2110201514419707553325325.pdf

As another illustration, the Department of Statistics, Singapore conducts International Trade in Services Survey (TIS Survey) annually under Section 5 of the Statistics Act (Chapter 317) to collect information on services transaction of the enterprises of Singapore with non-residents. Singapore does not have an international transaction reporting system (ITRS) and hence the results of this survey are used for preparation of balance of payments statistics as well as compilation of services trade statistics by major services categories and also by major trading destination or partner country break down. The Statistics Act makes it mandatory for the persons or businesses to furnish the information asked for the purpose of compilation of statistics. There are provisions for imposition of penalties under the Act for wilful refusal to provide information or submitting false information in respect of the requisition. The confidentiality of the information provided is also ensured under the Statistics Act." (Draft Manual on Statistics in International Trade in Services (MSITS) 2010 Compilers Guide, page 38) See http://www.singstat.gov.sg/about-us/statistics-act for more details.

Designing the Institutional Framework

Successful data collection also depends on the presence of proper institutional arrangements between NSIs, central banks and other relevant agencies in various departments and ministries on the collection and compilation of statistics. Bhutan is a case in point. As reported to the IMF's General Data Dissemination Service (GDDS), the Royal Monetary Authority (RMA) of Bhutan sends requests to various government and other agencies to provide the necessary information at the end of each fiscal year or quarter in some cases. It also sends out quarterly enterprise surveys to (1) General Enterprises (private sector entities); (2) Hydropower Project Authorities; (3) Financial Institutions; (4) International Organizations; and (5) NGOs in Bhutan. Cooperation with the agencies representing the major source data providers is important. Regular (quarterly) meetings are usually held amongst the compiling agencies, including the Ministry of Finance, the National Statistics Bureau, the Department of Energy, the Druk Green Power Corporation, the Department of Public Accounts, the Department of Budget, the Department of Revenue and Customs, the Gross National Happiness Commission, the Tourism Council of Bhutan, and the RMA. The annual report of the RMA can be accessed below for more details: http://www.rma.org.bt/RMA%20Publication/Annual%20Report/annual%20report%20%202014-2015.pdf

SUGGESTIONS

HOW TO DESIGN/REINFORCE THE INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK:

● Identify relevant stakeholders (collection and compilation agencies/persons) amongst different ministries and departments such as transport, tourism, etc.

● Issue regular guidelines to stakeholders on statistics collection/compilation

● Form consultative committees comprising members from NSIs and central banks and other identified stake-holders to discuss and share data collection/compilation techniques and methodologies

- Organize regular meetings of consultative committees to share implementation challenges and brainstorm to overcome such challenges
- Issue timely communication to relevant stakeholders for timely reporting of statistics

In comparison with a number of the other suggestions found in this toolkit to improve services trade data collection in LDCs/LICs, getting the institutional framework right is considered a relatively low-hanging fruit that can be achieved at very little cost.

Sources of Data and Methods of Collection

USE OF MULTIPLE DATA SOURCES

Countries that have recourse to multiple data sources are able to report better coverage and quality of data. Most "better performing" LDCs/LICs use multiple sources to collect and report services data. These sources include statistical business registers, survey (sampling) frames, enterprise and establishment surveys, surveys of persons and households, international transaction reporting systems (ITRS), administrative records and other data sources such as credit card records, mobile phone records, records of business associations, financial statements of companies, reports of chambers of commerce, records of investment promotion agencies, private databases and data compiled by trading partners. Detailed chapters on each of these data sources can be found in the MSITS 2010 Compilers Guide.

SUGGESTIONS
HOW TO MAKE USE OF MULTIPLE DATA SOURCES, INCLUDING SURVEYS

- Combine data from international transaction reporting systems with data from surveys of consumers (e.g. tourists) and intermediaries (e.g. users/providers of business services)

- To enhance response rates, prepare user-friendly surveys that use simple terms and definitions and where reporting codes are standardized to international norms.

- Identify sectors of economic importance and carry out focussed surveys in such sectors.

- Collect data by the four modes of service delivery – these are the four different ways in which services can be traded internationally. For example, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) surveys also require IT firms to report their services export transactions according to the four modes. This has enabled the RBI to provide data on India's IT and ITES exports by mode of delivery, which is a statistical achievement made possible through such user-defined surveys.

- Make use of micro-data linking, which involves linking information generated from firm-level surveys to existing datasets. For example in the European Statistical System, data obtained from International Sourcing (IS) Surveys were linked to Structural Business Statistics (SBS) and International Trade in Goods Statistics (ITGS).[4]

- Data collection can also be improved by technical improvements such as enhancing the quality or design of surveys and widening survey coverage to obtain a representative sample for better estimates.

Table 1 offers an illustration of the use of varied data sources at the services sector-level for the member states of COMESA is provided below:

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[4] Micro-data linking provides an opportunity to discover new information and to develop new statistics and indicators both using existing data sets and in combination with new data collections.

TABLE 1: SERVICE-SECTOR DATA SOURCES USED BY COMESA MEMBER STATES

	Transpor-tation	Travel	Commun-ication	Construct-ion	Insurance	Computer and information services	Royalties & License Fee	Operational leasing services	Misc. business, professional & technical
Burundi	Enterprise surveys	Enterprise surveys, ITRS	Bank data	ITRS	Bank data	Bank data	ITRS		ITRS
Comoros			Enterprise surveys		Enterprise surveys				Enterprise surveys
Djibouti			Direct reporting		Enterprise surveys and estimates				
Egypt	Exchange records and estimates	Admin data, expenditure surveys, ITRS	ITRS.	ITRS	ITRS and estimates	ITRS	ITRS		ITRS
Eritrea	Enterprise surveys	Immigration data average expenditure estimates	Enterprise surveys.		Enterprise surveys and estimates	Admin data			
Ethiopia	Direct reporting, estimates	Direct reporting & bank data	Direct reporting & bank data	ITRS	ITRS and estimates	ITRS	ITRS	ITRS, direct reporting	ITRS, direct reporting
Kenya	Direct reporting, admin data	Bank records	Enterprise surveys, admin data, ITRS	ITRS	Direct reporting, estimates	Admin data	ITRS	Enterprise surveys, direct reporting	ITRS
Malawi	Enterprise surveys, direct reporting, admin data, estimates	Departure cards, ITRS	Enterprise surveys		Enterprise surveys		ITRS	Direct reporting	ITRS
Mauritius	Enterprise surveys, admin data	Bank records							
Rwanda	Enterprise surveys, foreign exchange data	Enterprise surveys, admin data, foreign exchange data	Bank data verified by enterprise surveys	ITRS	Enterprise surveys and estimates	Bank records and admin data	ITRS	ITRS	ITRS
Seychelles	Enterprise surveys, direct reporting, estimates	Bank records	Monthly enterprise surveys		Enterprise surveys	Enterprise surveys	Enterprise surveys	Enterprise surveys	Enterprise surveys
Sudan	Bank records and estimation	Bank records, direct reporting by hotels	Bank records		ITRS	ITRS	ITRS		ITRS
Uganda	Enterprise surveys, immigration data, and estimates	Expenditure surveys, immigration records, surveys of schools and universities	Quarterly enterprise surveys		Enterprise surveys and estimates	ITRS	ITRS		ITRS
Zambia	Estimates	Enterprise surveys, admin data	Enterprise surveys		Enterprise surveys and estimates	Estimates based on historical surveys and admin data	Estimates based on historical surveys and admin data	Estimates based on historical surveys and admin data	Estimates based on historical surveys and admin data

Source: Table 11.12, Draft MSITS 2010 Compilers Guide, page 234

CONDUCTING FIRM-LEVEL SURVEYS IN KEY SECTORS

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), for instance, has conducted surveys of firms in India's IT and IT-enabled services (ITES) sectors since 2003-04, since exports from this sector constitute nearly 50% of India's total services exports. More details on the launch of the 2014-15 round of this survey as well as the report compiled using data collected on the basis of this survey can be accessed at https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=34485 and https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs /Bulletin/PDFs/03_ARTBULL100315.pdf. The actual survey can be accessed here: http://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/Forms/DOCs/87027_15.XLS[5]

Another survey on international trade in banking services can be accessed here: http://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/Forms/DOCs/ITBS08_01072016.XLS[6]

LDCs & LICs can likely customize these surveys to their own requirements with relative ease. Furthermore, they may consider approaching the Indian government for assistance in replicating and domesticating similar systems.

Working with a number of LDCs & LICs, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) has also recently developed services survey templates so as to address the region's need to improve the availability and quality of trade in services data including foreign affiliates statistics (FATS) to inform trade in services negotiations. The summary document for this work can be found here: http://tis.sadc.int/files/9014/5467/9666/SADC_Statistics_Template_for_Trade_in_Services _English.pdf

Sample questions can be accessed on pages 40-49 of the template. These cover services trade by partner country in the case of business services (pp. 40-45; drawn from the UK Office of National Statistics), a simple questionnaire for travel/tourism services (p. 45), and examples of foreign affiliate questions (pp. 46-49; adapted from the Zambian FDI/FATS questionnaire).

The UK Office of National Statistics has also published a template survey of international trade in services: http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/specific/economy/international-trade-in-services/upcoming-changes-to-international-trade-in-services/itis-annual-survey.pdf

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[5] Please note this will open a macro-enabled Excel file.

[6] Ibid

Step 5

Compiling and Publication of Statistics

AVAILABILITY AND QUALITY OF HUMAN CAPITAL

Another fundamental ingredient of good quality data availability is the availability and quality of the human capital involved in its reporting and compilation. Illustratively, measures taken to enhance data quality in the case of Indonesia include (a) internal training for the trainer (b) incentives to encourage firms to assign the right person to report transactions (c) reminding reporters to submit reports at regular intervals and (d) conducting extensive training and regular evaluations.

SUGGESTIONS

HOW TO STRENGTHEN THE CAPACITY OF THOSE INVOLVED IN DATA REPORTING, COMPILATION AND PUBLICATION

- Undertake measures, some of which are discussed below and in the example of Indonesia above, to improve the numbers and the understanding and skill-levels of reporters (those who report outcomes of surveys for instance) and compilers (those who put the reported data together as an output or organize it in an already prepared template)

- Provide regular and timely guidelines to reporters and compilers on data reporting and compilation

- Arrange for participation in workshops and periodic trainings to improve the skill-level of reporters and compilers

- Institute periodic internal trainings for the trainer

- Evaluate reporters and compilers regularly, including via unannounced snap checks

- Set up a system to deal with rapid turnover and attrition of personnel to ensure rapid and smooth transfer of knowledge

- Educate respondents on the need to keep and maintain records

● Incentivize firms to assign the right person to report transactions for example by rewarding firms that report data consistently

● Remind reporters to submit reports at regular intervals

Monitoring and Review

PRESENCE OF COMPREHENSIVE CHECKS AND CROSS-CHECKS

Countries that use more frequent and comprehensive checks and cross-checks to evaluate compiled data not only end up improving data quality but also tend to report these data for a greater number of sectors. Uganda and Mozambique are good illustrations of this.

In the case of Uganda for instance, source data including censuses, sample surveys and administrative records are routinely assessed for coverage, sample error, response error, and non-sampling error; the results of the assessments are monitored and made available to guide statistical processes. Monthly trade data are reviewed by the Statistics Department to place them on a BOP basis, as well as to check them for accuracy. Monthly aggregates are checked through daily returns, and large transactions are verified. An assessment of survey results is made. Some imputations are done with data on enterprises' income statements and published balance sheets. The survey data are processed by the Bank of Uganda (BOU) using a customized MS-Access application and Excel spreadsheets. Data at all stages of the survey exercise are verified against a set of control indicators. Both external and internal checks are employed in the source data validations including on-site and off-site editing carried out by enumerators. The editing procedures include checks on the internal inconsistencies in data, missing data (gaps), exchange rate conversion, and completeness in recording entries. The data editing procedures are followed by source data analysis at the various levels of data categorization.

SUGGESTIONS

HOW TO DEPLOY EFFECTIVE CHECKS AND CROSS-CHECKS

- Assess source data including censuses, sample surveys and administrative records for coverage, sample error, response error, and non-sampling error

- Monitor results of assessments

- Share results of assessments widely amongst stakeholders to guide statistical collection processes

- Review monthly data to check them for consistency and accuracy

- Check monthly aggregates through daily returns

- Verify large transactions say those exceeding $10,000 in value

- Verify data at all stages of the survey exercise against a set of control indicators

- Employ external and internal checks in source data validations including on-site (location of the survey) and off-site (NSI/central bank) editing carried out by enumerators

- Check for internal inconsistencies in data, missing data (gaps), exchange rate conversion, and completeness in recording entries

- Follow standardized data editing procedures for source data analysis at various levels of data categorization

Other suggested indicators and techniques to assess the quality of SITS are available in MSITS 2010 Table 19.1 on pages 309-311.

Conclusion

The process of improving services data collection and compilation is an on-going, long-term challenge – one which confronts both developed and developing countries alike. This toolkit offers some suggestions on how an LDC/LIC might develop a sequenced initiative for improving their services trade data. At the same time, virtually any of the individual elements can be incorporated into on-going efforts. A systematic approach which calibrates good practices to the domestic context, draws on available international assistance when needed, and engages both the domestic producers and users of this services trade data is likely to bear the greatest fruit. Ensuring such an approach is adequately prioritized domestically and embedded in national planning and budget processes will also be important ingredients for success. Over time, the increased availability and quality of services trade data in LDCs & LICs will prove essential for policymaking and negotiations, as these countries continue to leverage the increasingly important area of trade in services for inclusive, sustainable growth and development.

Other Useful Sources

Manual on Statistics in International Trade in Services (MSITS) 2010.
http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/msitsintro.htm

MSITS 2010 Compilers Guide. http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/doc14/BG-MSITS2010.pdf

WTO training material on measuring trade in services.
https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/services_training_module_e.pdf
https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/services_training_pres_e.pdf

IMF note on recent methodological developments. https://www.imf.org/external/np/sta/itserv/methdev.htm

UK Office of National Statistics paper on services data quality and methodology.
https://cy.ons.gov.uk/file?uri=/businessindustryandtrade/internationaltrade/qmis/internationaltradeinservic
esqmi/qmiitisjan15finalforpub_tcm77-180833.pdf

SADC services statistics resources. https://tis.sadc.int/english/tis/documents-and-resources/resources-by-
sector-and-topic/services-statistics/

Support to Enhance Development of Trade in Services Negotiations

With support from the UK Trade Advocacy Fund, ILEAP, CUTS International Geneva and the University of Sussex's CARIS are undertaking a series of interventions that seek to contribute to the increased and more effective participation of LDCs, LICs, LMICs and RECs in multilateral, regional and bilateral services trade negotiations.

Through the studies, toolkits and training to be delivered, the envisaged results aim to assist these stakeholders in increasing their participation in services trade.

www.tradeinservices.net