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CM.1 An Assessment Framework to Measure Alignment with the International Economic Statistical Standards

Prepared by the Communications Task Team (CMTT)

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CM.1 An Assessment Framework to Measure Alignment with the International Economic Statistical Standards[1]

The international community has developed several international economic statistical standards (IESSs) such as the System of National Accounts (SNA), the Balance of Payments Manual (BPM), and the Government Finance Statistics Manual (GSFM) to assist countries in developing internationally consistent macroeconomic statistics. One important feature of these IESSs is their ability to facilitate the comparison of estimates across countries. For users to be confident when making these cross-country comparisons, they need some assurance that the countries they are comparing have implemented these standards consistently. However, for several reasons, when countries use an IESS to compile macroeconomic statistics, a certain degree of choice, freedom, and variation can be taken in implementing the recommendations. This results in varying degrees of "alignment" to the IESSs across countries. This guidance note (GN) proposes an alignment framework that countries can use to determine the status of their national economic statistics vis-à-vis international standards. The framework is structured around the key building blocks of the statistical standards—concepts, accounting rules, methods, classifications, and the resulting accounts and/or tables that are produced and published.

SECTION I: INTRODUCTION

1. **The degree of alignment with international economic statistical standards (IESSs) provides two important signals to users.** First, it provides information about the quality of cross-country comparisons, and second, it signals to users the extent to which major revisions should be expected in the future, in cases where an economy is not aligned with the IESSs. Additionally, this helps producers of statistics to identify areas for improvement, prioritize resources, and formulate strategic plans, assist users to make appropriate adjustments to achieve comparability in their analyses, among others.

2. **Currently, alignment with IESSs is somewhat arbitrary and self-imposed.** That is, each country declares whether it is compliant or non-compliant. With the launch of the updates to the *System of National Accounts, 2008 (2008 SNA)* and the *Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, sixth edition (BPM6),* it is important to move away from this arbitrary approach. The next update of IESSs should include a set of international frameworks that provide structured, systematic, and consistent methods to measure an economy's alignment to IESSs. It is noted that supported by various statistical legislation, European Union (EU) Member States have a high degree of alignment with various international standards and standards specifically adapted for the EU.

3. **Therefore, in the context of the update of the *2008 SNA* and *BPM6*, it is an opportune time to consider the guidance provided to national authorities regarding the way they communicate their alignment with IESSs to users.** An internationally adopted framework that presents a country's alignment to a standard would assist users by allowing cross-country comparisons and anticipate the likely size and extent of future updates to macroeconomic statistics. While such a framework could take

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many different forms, this GN proposes three key alignment frameworks—for the SNA, government financial statistics (GFS), and balance of payments domains—that are structured around the key building blocks of an IESS—concepts, accounting rules, methods, classifications, and the resulting accounts and/or tables that are produced and published. These proposed frameworks draw heavily on existing assessment frameworks such as the IMF's Data Quality Assessment Framework, the UN's Data Quality Assessment Framework and the ISWGNA's Minimum Required Data Set (MRDS). The intent is to add this assessment framework to each of the IESSs (GFS, SNA, and BPM) and for countries to periodically assess their macroeconomic statistics programs against these frameworks.

4. **This guidance note (GN) contains two parts:** (i) three proposed frameworks that countries can use to assess their alignment to the concepts, methods, accounting rules, classifications, and accounts/tables associated with a given international economic statistical guidance; and (ii) a means to present and communicate this information to users in a standardized manner.

5. **The Communication Task Team (CMTT) proposes that the recommendations in this GN are included as part of a chapter to the SNA, BPM, and GFS titled *"Economic Statistics – Communication Practices and Recommendations."***

SECTION II: EXISTING MATERIAL

6. **The GN draws upon several existing frameworks already developed by international organizations.** The components of the proposed assessment framework are based primarily on the IMF's Data Quality assessment Framework (DQAF) and the United Nations National Accounts Questionnaire (UN-NAQ).[2] The IMF's DQAF provides a framework for qualitative self-assessments (among other types) of an economy's macroeconomic statistics. Although the DQAF outlines six elements of quality,[3] the CMTT's proposed framework centers primarily on the methodological soundness component. Using the NAQ, the UNSD "evaluates" the availability, scope, and coverage of national accounts data and the implementation of *SNA 2008*. "Conceptual compliance" with the *2008 SNA* is evaluated in terms of milestones and a Minimum Required Data Set (MRDS).[4,5]

[2] See https://dsbb.imf.org/content/pdfs/dqrs_nag.pdf and https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/doc11/2011-6-NationalAccounts-E.pdf

[3] DQAF elements: (i) prerequisites Quality, (ii) Integrity, (iii) Methodology, (iv) Accuracy and reliability, (v) Serviceability; and (vi) Reliability.

[4] The milestones provide guidance to countries that are considering expanding the scope of their national accounts coverage in line with the recommendations of the SNA while also serving as a monitoring instrument permitting the measurement of the level of national accounts development at different points in time and the identification of countries that might benefit from capacity development assistance.

[5] See for example UNSD developing a global programme for the implementation of the *2008 SNA* and supporting statistics: https://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/docs/impPaper.pdf, UNSD Self-assessment evaluation of the status of National Accounts and Supporting Statistics: https://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/docs/evaluation.doc, Report of the IMF Government Finance Statistics Advisory Committee, 2015 https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/gfsac/gfsac15.pdf, and the BOPCOM Paper – Progress in Implementing *BPM6* https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/bop/2015/pdf/15-05.pdf.

SECTION III: RECOMMENDED APPROACH

The proposed frameworks for measuring and communicating alignment to the IESSs do not require a change to either the SNA, BPM, or the Government Financial Statistics Manual (GFSM). Instead, the recommended frameworks are stand-alone tools intended for national statistical authorities and international agencies to assess the methodology and presentation underlying a country's (or group of countries') macroeconomic statistics. It is expected that the relevant framework would be included in a chapter of the SNA, BPM, and GFSM and that countries would be encouraged to use the frameworks and make the results publicly available for all users.

ALIGNMENT FRAMEWORK

7. **Macroeconomic statistics have several different types of users and uses.** Primarily, they inform users about the performance and structure of the domestic economy. They also inform users about the performance and composition of the economy relative to other economies. For the latter to be achieved, users require some assurance that the statistics they are comparing across countries have been consistently compiled. If there are inconsistencies, users need to be aware of the major methodological differences in the data compiled by different economies.

8. **Currently the SNA, BPM, and GFSM do not include a framework that compilers can use to assess their country's alignment to the IESS.** When countries communicate their alignment to a standard, it is usually done in the context of the version of the IESS used to produce the national estimates. While this is important information, it does not indicate the degree to which they implemented the recommendations contained in the relevant standard (or version thereof). Users are therefore left to assume that all countries have implemented the standard to the same degree—either completely or not at all. This is not always the case and while countries may be using the same version of an IESS, the method and degree to which it is implemented may vary significantly. This impacts user's interpretation and the cross-country comparability of the estimates.

9. **To illustrate, consider two economies A and B.** Country A indicates it uses the *2008 SNA* to compile its national accounts but does not record cultivated biological assets. Country B, also *2008 SNA* compliant, records cultivated biological assets in its national accounts. Both economies comply with the latest IESS, however, the asset boundary in each country is slightly different. When comparing the investment data, balance sheets, and productivity data of the two countries, it is important for the user to understand these differences. Country A may not record cultivated biological assets because they are not material for that economy, or they may be material but have no data. If this is the case, then this information should also be provided to users so that they do not attempt to compensate for the different treatment when making the cross-country comparisons. An internationally adopted and accepted alignment framework would assist users in making cross-country comparisons.

10. **The term alignment is purposeful, as it is unrealistic to expect a country to fully "comply" to an IESS.** Economic structures, users' data needs, resources, statistical infrastructure, and source data vary across countries. Therefore, producers of statistics must weigh the needs of its users—who may require a country specific accounting treatment—with the need to ensure that the resulting data are internationally comparable. In other cases, a given activity/concept may be economically immaterial for a given country and therefore, for pragmatic and resourcing reasons, the recommendation is not implemented. While countries strive to "align" to an IESS, most countries do not fully comply. As a result,

a proposed framework needs flexibility to take into consideration that certain parts of the standard may not apply to a given economy or a given situation, or the activity may exist but deemed not to be relevant for policy users within their jurisdiction.

11. **The use of an alignment framework will facilitate cross-country comparisons as well as help users anticipate the potential impact of subsequent revisions to the statistics.**[6] For example, assume that a country undertakes a comprehensive revision where they introduce several conceptual and accounting changes to the macroeconomic accounts. Assume that change results in a 20 percent increase in the level of GDP. A logical question a user may raise is whether there may be additional revisions at some point in the future—and what the scale of the revised estimates may be. If a country can demonstrate that its latest revision with the standard brings it fully in line with the current set of international recommendations, users will have some assurance that future changes will be small. Although the concepts may be covered, this does not preclude other methodological or data source improvements.

12. **An effective alignment framework should have some degree of flexibility and be easy to implement, update and communicate.** While this framework can take many different forms, the CMTT recommends that the alignment framework be structured around the key components of an IESS. At a very high level, an IESS consists of a set of (i) concepts; (ii) accounting rules; (iii) methods; (iv) classification systems; and (5) tables/accounts.

13. **Concepts are the foundation of an IESS.** They reflect the articulation of a macroeconomic idea, activity, interaction, state, or notion. Concepts determine what gets measured. Consider the concept of production in the *2008 SNA*. The *2008 SNA* paragraph 1.40 states that production is *"...a physical process, carried out under the responsibility, control and management of an institutional unit, in which labour and assets are used to transform inputs of goods and services into outputs of other goods and services. All goods and services produced as outputs must be such that they can be sold on markets or at least be capable of being provided by one unit to another, with or without charge. The SNA includes within the production boundary all production destined for the market, whether for sale or barter. It also includes all goods or services provided free to individual households or collectively to the community by government units or NPISHs."* The concept of production, and the production boundary, in the SNA ultimately determines the size of a given economy. Other key concepts include income, assets, capital formation, expenditure, and consumption among others.

14. **Accounting rules reflect the guidelines that macroeconomic compilers should follow when recording transactions and other economic flows.** In the context of the IESSs, accounting rules determine how activities get recorded. For example, a key accounting rule in the *2008 SNA* is the rule that transactions are recorded *"on an accrual basis throughout"* (*2008 SNA*, paragraph 3.163). The IESSs have numerous accounting rules related to the time of recording, valuation, consolidations, and netting that should all be considered "in-scope" for an alignment framework.

15. **Methods are closely associated with accounting rules.** One way to interpret a method is to view it as the way a macroeconomic accountant implements an accounting rule or measures a concept. For example, one compiler may decide to use a series of price indices to derive an estimate of the market

[6] The definition and types of revisions are discussed further in CMTT CM.3 *Taxonomy for Communicating Economic Statistics Releases, Products, and Product Updates*

value for a stock of assets while another compiler may decide to obtain observed values recorded on the balance sheets of enterprises. Both are following the same valuation rule but are using different methods to apply the rule. The IESSs list several recommended methods related to valuation, the calculation of volumes, that should be included in an alignment framework.

16. **Classifications determine the level of detail that is presented to users.** As discussed earlier, the concept of production in the *2008 SNA* determines what gets measured. At the limit, this could result in publication of a single (albeit very large) number. Presenting a single estimate of production would not be very useful and would only lead to a series of additional questions from users; such as, which firms contributed the most to production? or which regions contributed the greatest share? Classifications facilitate a consistent and coherent presentation of detailed or granular information to users as well as a standard approach to aggregating the information.

17. **The sequence of accounts/specific tables outline how information is presented to users.** They specify the structure and terminology that should be adopted when communicating macroeconomic statistics to users. They also outline what information is provided to users. Most IESSs have already identified a set of accounts or tables that are considered *the minimum requirements* to declare alignment to a set of standards. Since this is both well-defined and widely used, it is proposed that this is incorporated into the alignment framework.

18. **While the five categories noted above can serve as an overarching structure for the alignment framework some granularity is needed.** Since a given IESS has many concepts, accounting rules, methods, classifications, and accounts/tables, it is not possible or pragmatic to list them all within the framework—a subset is required. Many users of macroeconomic statistics use the data to analyze and compare the structure and evolution of the economy over time and across jurisdictions. It seems appropriate that the individual items to be included in the framework focus on those categories that impact the interpretation and assessment of levels and growth rates. Using these criteria, an alignment checklist has been developed and included in Annex II of this guidance note for the SNA, GFSM, and BPM.[7] This is a preliminary list that requires refinement through a series of consultations. In addition, the final checklist that will be included in the updated SNA, BPM, and GFSM can only be determined once decisions have been made regarding the concepts, accounting rules, methods, classifications, and accounts to be included in the updated IESSs.

COMMUNICATING WITH USERS

19. **The previous section outlined an alignment framework that could be used to determine alignment with an IESS.** This section of the note outlines how macroeconomic compilers can communicate this information to users. While some consideration may be given to the development of a scoring system/methodology, it is recommended that a dashboard approach be taken. Scoring a country's alignment to a statistical framework may create a disincentive to use the framework. In addition, any aggregate score would require some form of weighting mechanism which would introduce a high degree of subjectivity (i.e., is alignment to concepts more important than alignment to accounting rules) into the process. A dashboard that does not attempt to quantify or summarize the information will still provide useful information to users in a simple, straight forward, and flexible manner.

[7] The annex current reflects the preliminary framework/questions relevant for the SNA, BPM, and GFSM.

20. **The starting point for the dashboard is the alignment framework presented in Annex II.** While most of the items in the framework can be structured to solicit a "yes" or "no" response, it is felt that this would not provide the granularity users require to properly interpret the results nor would it provide the compiling country the flexibility it needs to properly convey the scope of its program. Since the framework is intended to measure the degree of alignment to a standard it was felt that the tool used to undertake the assessment should also include the notion of "degree". It is proposed that for each item on framework the compiling organization indicate whether they:

a) **Fully align** with the recommendation—meaning that between 95–100 percent of the recommendations is implemented.

b) **Highly align** with the recommendation—meaning that between 75–95 percent of the recommendations is implemented.

c) **Broadly align** with the recommendation—meaning that between 50–75 percent of the recommendations is implemented.

d) **Partially align** with the recommendation—meaning that between 25–50 percent of the recommendations is implemented.

e) **Do Not align** with the recommendation—meaning between 0–25 percent of the recommendations is implemented.

f) The recommendation is **Not Applicable—**meaning that for issues of materiality or relevance, the recommendation is not implemented. Materiality is subjective but a steer would be less than 0.05 percent (and/or a monetary equivalent) of GDP.

21. **The introduction of the notion of "percent aligned" does introduce some subjectivity and flexibility into the exercise thus a range approach has been adopted.** This was done because it is difficult to define (and impossible to measure) what would constitute being 100 percent aligned to a concept, accounting rule, method, etc. It is proposed that country compilers use their knowledge of their processes and an assessment of economic activity in their country to make this determination. For example, assume that the alignment framework includes the item "recording of illegal activity". Assume that the country includes estimates of illegal drug production and illegal drug-trafficking in its estimates but does not account for illegal tobacco smuggling. Assume that illegal tobacco smuggling is small relative to illegal drug trafficking and, at most, represents five percent of the value of drug production and drug trafficking. In this case, the country compiler would indicate that they fully align with the IESSs since they are capturing approximately 95 percent of illegal activity. While this requires some subjectivity on the part of the country compiler it is felt that this flexibility in determining full versus partial versus no alignment was necessary and informative without putting too much burden on the compilers.

22. **It is recommended that the dashboard be presented in digital format and be included as a part of the sources and methods documentation for a given IESS.** The assessment can be done for the entirety of a macroeconomic accounts program or it can be completed for individual accounts. It is also recommended that the assessment be color-coded such that:

- Fully Aligned = Green
- Highly Aligned = Light green

- ➢ Broadly Aligned = Yellow
- ➢ Partially Aligned = Light Yellow
- ➢ Not Aligned = Red
- ➢ Not Applicable = Black.

23. The following is an example of what an IESS alignment dashboard could look like (using the first few items from Annex II.

Category	Comments	F	H	B	P	N	NA
Production Boundary Covers							
Observed market output		★					
Non-observed market output.		★					
Non-market output			★				
Output for own final use	Household output for own final use is not included.			★		★	
Imputed services					★		
Illegal output	Estimates of illegal activity are not included.						

24. The fully aligned, partially aligned and not aligned categories **are appropriate** when considering concepts, methods, and accounting rules but **not when considering classifications** used, tables or accounts. It is proposed that the timeliness (days released after the reference period) and granularity (number of detailed classes) be used in "quantifying" the alignment of tables and accounts to a given standard as showing in Annex II.

SECTION IV: RECOMMENDED APPROACH – PRACTICAL ASPECTS

25. **This recommendation has several practical considerations for compilers.** First, it recommends that compilers assess the alignment of their macroeconomic program to the relevant IESS. Second, it recommends that national compilers communicate the results of this assessment broadly to both users and the international statistical community at large. Finally, since the macroeconomic accounts in most countries are continuously evolving, it implies that countries will need to periodically update this assessment to ensure it reflects the current state of their macroeconomic accounts program.

SECTION V: CHANGES REQUIRED TO THE *2008 SNA* AND OTHER STATISTICAL DOMAINS

26. **This recommendation does not propose changes to the concepts of the IESS.** This recommendation defines a set of concepts, accounting rules, methods, classifications, and tables/accounts that constitute a given IESS. This "set" was determined by a deliberate assessment of

those components of an IESS that have a significant impact on either the level or growth of the macroeconomic statistics.

27. **The CMTT recommends that the above proposals are included as part of a chapter to the SNA, BPM, and GFS titled "Economic Statistics – Communication Practices and Recommendations."** In addition to including the information from this GN, this proposed chapter should also include information from the CMTT GNs on Terminology (CM.2) and Taxonomy (CM.3). Countries should be encouraged to use the framework and make the results publicly available for all users.

Questions to the Committee

1. *Does the Committee agree to move this note forward to global consultation?*
2. *Does the Committee agree with the components of the SNA, BPM, and GFS alignment frameworks as presented in the Annex?*
3. *Does the Committee agree with the "dashboard" methodology used for the assessment framework?*
4. *Does the Committee agree with the definition of the categories—fully aligned, highly aligned, broadly aligned, and partially aligned—used to demarcate the degree of alignment?*
5. *Does the Committee have proposals on how to communicate a country's overall level of alignment to users?*

Annex I. Referenced Documents

Carson, Carol S., Sarmad Khawaja, and Thomas K. Morrison, 2003, Revisions *Policy for Official Statistics: A Matter of Governance*, 54th Session of the International Statistical Institute Berlin, Germany, available at https://dsbb.imf.org/content/pdfs/RevPolicyStat.pdf

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UNECE, 2012, *Report of Activities to Support the Implementation of the* 2008 System of National Accounts *in Eastern European and Central Asian Countries*, available at https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/stats/documents/ece/ces/ge.20/2012/Report_on_2008_SNA_implementation-revised.pdf

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United Nations Statistics Division, 2018, *10 Years Since the Adoption of the* System of National Accounts 2008 *Status of Implementation*, Annual Seminar on National Accounts, Panama, available at https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/presentations/2018-05-semcn_2_denu-ilaria-di-matteo.pdf

United Nations Statistics Division, *Developing a Global Programme for the Implementation of the* 2008 SNA *and Supporting Statistics*, available at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/docs/impPaper.pdf

United Nations Statistics Division, *Self-Assessment Evaluation of the Status of National Accounts and Supporting Statistics,* available at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/docs/evaluation.doc

Annex II. System of National Accounts Alignment Framework for Concepts, Methods, Rules, and Classification[8]

The underlying questions in this questionnaire format is intended to ensure some form of structure is used in assessing the quality of the accounts. The questionnaire lists a number of points to consider for each section. It is primarily targeted at availability, alignment, and comparability; in this context, the SNA, the BPM and the GFS.

The following tables identify the key assessment questions related to (i) key concepts, (ii) methods, (iii) accounting rules, and (iv) classifications against which alignment with the SNA can be assessed. The key concepts and definitions proposed are in line with the statistical best practices outlined in the SNA framework. The key concepts are broadly based on the IMF DQAF Questionnaire and the UNSD's *2008 SNA* Compliance Questionnaire.

I. SNA Alignment Framework – Metadata

Is there a National Code of Practice?	Y/N	Insert link:
Last benchmark year for GDP	Enter year:	Insert link to revisions publication:
Latest period for which balanced SUTs are available?	*(select from dropdown)*	
Latest period for which institutional sector accounts are available?	*(select from dropdown)*	
Do you have a published revision policy?	Y/N	Insert link:
What is the release cycle used for?		
Annual National Accounts	*(select from dropdown)*	
Quarterly National Accounts	*(select from dropdown)*	
Other Documentation (e.g., sources of data and compilation methods) – useful links		
Topic Theme	Insert name:	Insert link:
Topic Theme	Insert name:	Insert link:
Topic Theme	Insert name:	Insert link:
Topic Theme	Insert name:	Insert link:

[8] Similar frameworks are being developed for the BOP and GFS domains.

II. SNA Alignment Framework – Concepts and Methods

Use the framework to indicate the degree of alignment with the SNA concepts, definitions, methods, accounting rules: (i) **fully aligned** with the recommendation means that between **95–100 percent** of the recommendation is implemented, (ii) **highly aligned** with the recommendation means between **75–95 percent** of the recommendation is implemented, (iii) **broadly aligned** with the recommendation means between **50–75 percent** of the recommendation is implemented, (iv) **partially aligned** with the recommendation means between **25–50 percent** of the recommendation is implemented, (v) **not aligned** with the recommendation means that between **0–25 percent** of the recommendation is implemented; and (vi) **the recommendation is not applicable—**meaning that for issues of materiality or user requirements the recommendation is not implemented.

Category	Sub-Category	Fully Aligned	Highly aligned	Broadly Aligned	Partially Aligned	Not Aligned	N/A
I. Concepts and definitions *An SNA concept reflects the articulation of a macroeconomic idea, activity, interaction, state, or notion. Concepts determine what gets measured, an example is the concept of production in the SNA.*							
	i) Units of the economy include						
	Domestic territory						
	Territorial enclaves in the rest of the world						
	Free zones/bonded warehouses / factories operated by offshore enterprises under customs control						
	Workers who work part of the year in another country						
	Goods that do not change economic ownership are part of the economy (not recorded in exports and imports)						
	ii) Production boundary covers						
	Market output						
	Non-market output						
	Output for own final use						
	- In particular, the following items are included						
	Informal economy						
	Underground economy						
	Illegal activities						
	Other non-observed activities						
	Imputed services (of owner-occupied						

Category	Sub-Category	Fully Aligned	Highly aligned	Broadly Aligned	Partially Aligned	Not Aligned	N/A
	dwellings)						
	Own-account production of all goods for own final consumption						
	Research and development for market and own account						
	Output of goods for own-account fixed capital formation;						
	Costs of mineral exploration						
	Production of entertainment, literary, or artistic originals						
	Production of computer software for own account						
	iii) Asset boundary						
	Dwellings						
	Other buildings and structures						
	Machinery and equipment						
	Weapons systems						
	Cultivated biological resources						
	Intellectual property products						
	Valuables						
	- In particular, the following items are included						
	Defence related assets that could be used for civilian purposes						
	Weapons systems such as warships, submarines, tanks, missile carriers and launchers, etc.						
	Valuables and historical monuments						
	Agricultural work-in-progress						
	Mineral exploration and evaluation (whether successful or not)						
	Systems and standard applications computer software and databases (purchased or built in-house)						
	Entertainment, literary or artistic originals						
	Research and development products						

Category	Sub-Category	Fully Aligned	Highly aligned	Broadly Aligned	Partially Aligned	Not Aligned	N/A
	Leases and other transferable contracts (such as purchased goodwill)						
II. Accounting Rules *The SNA accounting rules reflect the guidelines that compilers should follow when recording transactions and other economic flows. They determine how activities get recorded, for example accrual basis of recording principle.*							
	Valuation						
	Output is valued at basic prices						
	Output for own use is valued at equivalent market prices						
	If levied, sales and excise taxes are included in the valuation of intermediate consumption						
	If value added taxes are in place, they are included in the valuation of intermediate consumption, excluding the deductible part of the value added taxes						
	If applicable, the deductible part of the value added taxes is excluded from the valuation of final uses						
	Corrections are made when transfer prices are detected						
	Information on the cost of insurance and freight for merchandise imports is available						
	Total imports and exports are valued on an f.o.b. basis						
	Transactions in foreign currency are converted using the mid-point exchange rate prevailing in the market when they take place						
	Proper adjustments are made if a system of multiple official exchange rates exists						
	Consumption of fixed capital is valued at current replacement cost.						
	Stock of non-financial assets are valued at market prices.						
	Time of Recording						

Category	Sub-Category	Fully Aligned	Highly aligned	Broadly Aligned	Partially Aligned	Not Aligned	N/A
	Transactions and flows are recorded on an accrual basis						
	Work-in-progress is recorded in the period it is produced						
	Government-related transactions are recorded on an accrual basis, in particular taxes and subsidies on products; expenditures; revenues.						
	Grossing / Netting, Consolidation						
	Transactions between establishments within the same enterprise are recorded on a gross basis						
III. Methods *IESSs methods are closely associated with accounting rules. One way to interpret a method is to view it as the way a macroeconomic accountant implements an accounting rule or measures a concept. For example, one compiler may decide to use a series of price indices to derive an estimate of the market value for a stock of assets while another compiler may decide to obtain observed values recorded on the balance sheets of enterprises. Both are following the same valuation rule, but both have used different methods to apply the rule.*							
	Sub-annual series are seasonally adjusted						
	Output and intermediate consumption are deflated by appropriate price indexes at basic prices or at producer prices consistently						
	Volume indexes are chained-weighted						
	ANA and QNA volume are chain-linked						

III. SNA Alignment Framework – Classification

The following section of the framework requests details on the classification systems and SNA tables/accounts that are compiled and disseminated.					
Classifications/ and Presentation of Accounts					
	Classifications Standard		**Version**	**Level of Detail**	**Used for SUTs? (Y/N)**
	International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC)				
	Central Product Classification (CPC)				
	Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP)				
	Classification of the Functions of Government (COFOG)				
	Classification of the Purposes of Non-profit Institutions serving households (COPNI)				

	Other Classifications used:	**Name**	**Version**	**Level of Details**	**For which purpose**
	Enter Name				
	Enter Name				
	Enter Name				
	Statistical Unit				
	What is the statistical unit used for?	**SUTs and IOTs (Y/N)**		**Institutional sector accounts (Y/N)**	
	Local Kind of Activity Unit (LKAU)				
	Kind of Activity Unit (KAU)				
	Unit of Homogeneous Production (UHP)				
	What is the statistical unit used for?	**SUTs and IOTs (Y/N)**		**Institutional sector accounts (Y/N)**	
	Local UHP				
	Enterprise				
	Institutional unit				
	Enterprise Group				
	Other (name)				

IV. SNA Alignment Framework – Accounts/Tables

Category	Sub-Category	Timeliness (e.g., T+30 days, T+3 months, etc.)	Granularity (Number of industries or number of transaction lines)	Limitations (e.g., missing entries)
Presentation: Accounts and Tables				
	Annual value added by industry and GDP in current prices and in volume terms			
	Annual GDP by expenditure in current prices and in volume terms			
	Annual GDP by income in current prices			
	Annual sequence of accounts for the total economy (until net lending / borrowing)			
	Annual rest of the world accounts (until net lending / borrowing)			
	Annual non-financial corporation sector accounts (until net lending / borrowing)			
	Annual financial corporations sector accounts (until net lending / borrowing)			
	Annual general government sector accounts (until net lending / borrowing)			
	Annual household sector accounts (until net lending / borrowing)			
	Annual non-profit institutions serving households sector accounts (until net lending / borrowing)			
	Quarterly value added by industry and GDP in current prices and in volume terms			
	Quarterly sequence of accounts for the total economy (until net lending / borrowing)			
	Quarterly rest of the world accounts (until net lending / borrowing)			
	Optional minimum requirement			
	Quarterly GDP by expenditures in current prices and in volume terms			
	Quarterly GDP by income in current prices			

Category	Sub-Category	Timeliness (e.g., T+30 days, T+3 months, etc.)	Granularity (Number of industries or number of transaction lines)	Limitations (e.g., missing entries)
Presentation: Accounts and Tables				
	Recommended tables and accounts			
	Annual Supply and Use tables			
	Annual Input-Output tables			
	Annual integrated economic account table			
	Annual financial accounts for all institutional sectors			
	Annual cross-classification of output/value added by industries and institutional sectors			
	Annual general government final consumption expenditure by purpose in current prices and in volume terms			
	Annual individual final consumption (and other) expenditure by purpose in current prices			
	Annual balance sheets, revaluation and other volume changes in asset accounts for all institutional sectors			
	Quarterly value added components by industry in current prices and in volume terms			
	Quarterly employment by industry			
	Quarterly non-financial corporation sector accounts (until net lending/borrowing)			
	Quarterly financial corporations sector accounts (until net lending/borrowing)			
	Quarterly general government sector accounts (until net lending/borrowing)			
	Quarterly household sector accounts (until net lending)			
	Quarterly non-profit institutions serving households sector accounts (until net lending)			

Category	Sub-Category	Timeliness (e.g., T+30 days, T+3 months, etc.)	Granularity (Number of industries or number of transaction lines)	Limitations (e.g., missing entries)
Presentation: Accounts and Tables				
	Desirable tables and accounts			
	Annual social accounting matrices			
	Quarterly Supply and Use tables			
	Quarterly financial accounts for all sectors			
	Quarterly balance sheets, revaluation and other volume changes in asset accounts for all institutional sectors			
	Others			
	Capital stock			
	Labour accounts			
	Productivity tables (multi-factor, labour and capital)			
	Annual tourism accounts, environmental accounts and other socio-economic accounts			
	Annual general government final consumption expenditure by purpose in volume terms			
	Annual individual consumption expenditures by purpose in volume terms			
	Annual purpose classification of intermediate and final consumption across all institutional sectors			

Annex III. Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM) Alignment Framework for Concepts, Methods, Rules, Classification, Accounts, and Tables

The following tables identify the key assessment questions related to (i) key concepts, (ii) methods, (iii) accounting rules, (iv) classifications, and (v) accounts and tables against which alignment with the BPM can be assessed. The key concepts and definitions proposed are in line with the statistical best practices outlined in the BPM framework. The key concepts are broadly based on the IMF DQAF Questionnaire.

I. BPM Alignment Framework – Metadata

Do you have a published revision policy?	Y/N	Insert link:
Is the BoP revision policy consistent with the National Accounts revision policy?	Y/N	Insert link
If the answer to the above question is no, are there reasons why not?		
Other Documentation – useful links		
Topic Theme	Insert name:	Insert link:
Topic Theme	Insert name:	Insert link:
Topic Theme	Insert name:	Insert link:
Topic Theme	Insert name:	Insert link:

II. BPM Alignment Framework – Concepts and Methods

Use the framework to indicate the degree of alignment with the BPM concepts, definitions, methods, accounting rules: (i) **fully aligned** with the recommendation means that between **95–100 percent** of the recommendation is implemented, (ii) **Highly aligned** with the recommendation means between **75–95 percent** of the recommendation is implemented, (iii) **broadly aligned** with the recommendations means between **50–75 percent** of the recommendations is implemented, (iv) **partially aligned** with the recommendation means between **25–50 percent** of the recommendation is implemented, (v) **not aligned** with the recommendation means that between **0–25 percent** of the recommendation is implemented, and (vi) **the recommendation is not applicable—**meaning that for issues of materiality, the recommendation is not implemented.

Category	Sub-Category	Fully Aligned	Highly aligned	Broadly aligned	Partially Aligned	Not Aligned	N/A
I. Concepts and definitions *A BPM concept reflects the articulation of a macroeconomic idea, activity, interaction, state, or notion. Concepts determine what gets measured, an example is the concept of residency in the BPM.*							
	i) Units of the economy include						
	Domestic territory						
	Incorporated or unincorporated affiliates of non-resident companies						
	Territorial enclaves in the rest of the world						
	Free zones / bonded warehouses / factories operated by offshore enterprises under customs control						
	Workers who work part of the year in another country						
	- In particular						
	Residence of Special Purpose Entities (SPEs) is attributed to the economy in which they are located						
	International organizations and supranational authorities are not considered residents of any national economy						
	All units of general government (e.g., embassies, military bases) are considered to be resident in their own economy						
	Subject to specific circumstances, an individual may cease being a resident of						

Category	Sub-Category	Fully Aligned	Highly aligned	Broadly aligned	Partially Aligned	Not Aligned	N/A
	his country when he or she works continuously for one year or more in a foreign country						
	ii) Balance of payments accounts cover						
	Both foreign currency and domestic currency transactions with non-residents						
	Both exchanges and unrequited transfers (transactions without a quid pro quo)						
	Goods for processing						
	Repairs on goods						
	Non-monetary gold						
	Shuttle trade						
	Smuggling						
	Purchase of computer software						
	Mineral exploration						
	E-commerce transactions						
	Leases and other transferable contracts						
	Reinvested earnings						
	Inter-company lending						
	Portfolio investment of private sector						
	Trade credit						
	Short-term debt transactions						
	Debt arrears						
	Non-cash transactions						
	iii) International investment position accounts cover						
	All financial claims between resident institutional units and non-residents						
	iv) Structure, in terms of concepts and definitions						
	Current, capital, and financial accounts of the BOP statement are defined according to *BPM6*						
	Net lending / net borrowing recorded as the current and capital account balance is in principle equal to net lending / net borrowing recorded as the financial						

Category	Sub-Category	Fully Aligned	Highly aligned	Broadly aligned	Partially Aligned	Not Aligned	N/A
	account balance						
	Double-entry system is applied in constructing the BOP statement, and the net residual is embedded in the errors and omissions item; net errors and omissions are derived as net lending / net borrowing from the financial account minus the same item derived from the current and capital account						
	A clear distinction is made between the income component and the goods and services components.						
	The BOP financial account provides for a separate recording of transactions in assets and transactions in liabilities.						
	Foreign direct investment is presented on a gross assets and liabilities basis.						
	Data on foreign direct investment on the directional basis (i.e. inward and outward direct investment) are also available						
	Transactions in goods and services by government entities abroad are classified under the government services not-included-elsewhere component						
	Manufacturing on physical inputs owned by nonresidents is recorded as a service						
	Merchanting of goods is classified under goods trade, with both gross and net values shown; the net amounts are included in the goods exports aggregates						
	Outright purchases and sales of the results of R&D (including patents and copyrights) are recorded under R&D services						
	Charges for the use of the outcomes of R&D are classified as a service under charges for the use of intellectual property						

Category	Sub-Category	Fully Aligned	Highly aligned	Broadly aligned	Partially Aligned	Not Aligned	N/A
	n.i.e.						
	Financial intermediation services indirectly measured (FISIM) are distinguished from investment income and classified under financial services						
	All changes related to migrants' transfers are excluded from the BOP; corrections in the form of other changes are made in the IIP for the relevant positions in assets and liabilities.						
	Long-term construction projects are classified under foreign direct investment						
	License fees for fishing and hunting are included in the capital account						
	Borrowing and lending - including debt securities and supplier's credits - between direct investors and direct investment enterprises are classified under foreign direct investment, except where transactions / positions are between a selected category of affiliated financial intermediaries						
	Loan transactions and positions of the banking sector are classified separately from currency and deposits transactions / positions of this sector; however, interbank loan positions are classified under deposits.						
	The short-term and long-term attribution of transactions and positions in the other investment component is made according to the original maturity of the financial instrument						
	v) Functional categories						
	Foreign direct investment transactions are defined as equity ownership representing						

Category	Sub-Category	Fully Aligned	Highly aligned	Broadly aligned	Partially Aligned	Not Aligned	N/A
	10 per cent or more of the voting power						
	Reserve assets are defined considering the concept of monetary authorities' effective control and availability for use						
	vi) Sectorization						
	Government guaranteed external debt transactions are attributed to the institutional sector of the borrower						
	Government-controlled enterprises that are public corporations are excluded from general government and are included as public enterprises in the appropriate nonfinancial or financial corporations sector						
II. Accounting Rules *The BPM accounting rules reflect the guidelines that compilers should follow when recording transactions, positions, and other economic flows. They determine how activities get recorded, for example accrual basis of recording principle.*							
	Valuation						
	Market prices are used to value transactions and positions; for some positions, proxies are used						
	Monetary gold is valued at market prices						
	Financial instruments traded on a regular basis are valued by directly using the price quotations from markets						
	Total imports and exports are valued on an f.o.b. basis						
	Appropriate substitute measures are developed when no actual market prices are available, for example for:						
	Barter trade, transactions between affiliated enterprises, gifts or grants						
	For financial instruments that are not or infrequently trade in financial markets a fair value is estimated that approximates market value						

Category	Sub-Category	Fully Aligned	Highly aligned	Broadly aligned	Partially Aligned	Not Aligned	N/A
	Loans, deposits, and other accounts receivable/payable are recorded at nominal value						
	When transactions estimates are derived from stock data, the value of the transaction excludes valuation and other changes						
	Transactions in foreign currency are converted using the mid-point exchange rate prevailing in the market when they take place						
	When transactions estimates are derived from stock data, an attempt is made to value the stock data in their original currencies, and then convert the change in original currency to domestic currency/unit of account at the average exchange rate for the applicable period						
	Proper adjustments are made if a system of multiple official exchange rates exists						
	Time of Recording						
	Transactions are recorded on an accrual basis						
	Transactions are recorded according to the change in ownership principle						
	Grossing / Netting, Consolidation						
	Current and capital account transactions are recorded on a gross basis while financial account transactions are recorded on a net basis, separately for the individual asset and liability components						

III. Methods

IESSs methods are closely associated with accounting rules. One way to interpret a method is to view it as the way a macroeconomic accountant implements an accounting rule or measures a concept. For example, one compiler may decide to use a series of price indices to derive an estimate of the market value for a stock of assets while another compiler may decide to obtain observed values recorded on the balance sheets of enterprises. Both are following the same valuation rule, but both have used different methods to apply the rule.

Category	Sub-Category	Fully Aligned	Highly aligned	Broadly aligned	Partially Aligned	Not Aligned	N/A
	Investment income is obtained directly (e.g. reported on a survey) or is estimated by multiplying outstanding stock of financial assets by a corresponding representative yield						
	Direct investment relationships identified by applying the Foreign Direct Investment Relationship (FDIR) or similar methods						

III. BPM Alignment Framework – Classification

The following section of the framework requests details on the classification systems that are used in the compilation of BOP and IIP statistics.

	Classifications Standard	**Fully Aligned**	**Highly aligned**	**Broadly aligned**	**Partially Aligned**	**Not Aligned**	**Not Applicable**
	BPM6 Classification of Institutional Sectors (Table 4.2)						
	Primary income, financial account, and IIP classified according to Functional Categories						
	BPM6 classification of financial assets and liabilities by instrument (Table 5.2)						
	BPM6 Classification of Services (Table 10.1)						
	Other Classifications:	**Name**			**Version**	**Level of Details**	**For which purpose**
	Enter Name						
	Enter Name						
	Enter Name						

IV. BPM Alignment Framework – Accounts/Tables

The following section of the framework requests details on the BPM tables/accounts that are compiled and disseminated.

Category	Sub-Category	Timeliness (e.g., T+30 days, T+3 months, etc.)	Granularity (e.g. level of detail)	Limitations (e.g., any missing lines)
	Balance of payments standard components and memorandum items (Appendix 9)			
	International investment position standard components and memorandum items (Appendix 9)			
	Reserve-related liabilities (Table A9-V)			
	Non-performing loans separately at fair value (para. 7.45-7.56)			
	Currency composition of assets and liabilities and institutional sector (Table A9-I)			
	Additional Supplemental Items for BOP, and IIP as applicable			
	Direct investment by instrument, maturity, and institutional sector (see para. 2.32, 2.34, and 14.59)			
	Direct investment involving resident SPEs (see para. 4.50 and 4.87)			
	Direct investment in the reporting economy and direct investment abroad (see Box 6.4)			
	Real estate investment (see para. 6.31)			
	Pass-through funds (see 6.33-6.34)			
	Data by kind of economic activity (industry) (see para. 6.50)			
	Mergers and acquisitions (see para. 8.18)			
	Data for money-issuing sector (see para. 4.72)			
	Financial account items for public corporations (see 4.108)			
	Data by partner economy (see para. 4-146-4.148)			
	Detail for investment income to match the IIP (see para. 7.13 and 11.6)			
	Gross flows for financial account items (see para. 8.9)			
	Reconciliation table between merchandise source data and goods on a			

Category	Sub-Category	Timeliness (e.g., T+30 days, T+3 months, etc.)	Granularity (e.g. level of detail)	Limitations (e.g., any missing lines)
	balance of payments basis (see Table 10.2)			
	Gross insurance premiums earned and unadjusted insurance claims (see para. 10.112)			
	Transfers implied by loans at concessional interest (see para. 12.51)			
	Personal remittances (see para. 12.27(a))			
	Total remittances (see para. 12.27(b))			
	Total remittances and transfers to nonprofit institutions serving households (see para. 12.27(c))			
	Insurance claims included in other capital transfers (see para. 13.24)			
	Additional Supplemental Items for IIP			
	Currency composition of assets and liabilities and institutional sector (Tables A9-II and A9-III)			
	Foreign currency assets of monetary authorities: Foreign currency deposits with deposit-taking corporations resident in the reporting economy (see para. 6.65) and Foreign currency assets of monetary authorities: Foreign currency claims on neighbouring economies (see para. 6.73)			
	Foreign assets of special purpose government funds not included in reserve assets (see para. 6.93-6.98)			
	Pooled assets included in reserve assets (see para. 6.99-6.101)			
	Pledged assets excluded from reserve assets (see para. 6.107-6.109)			
	Debt securities at nominal values (see para. 7.30)			
	Remaining maturity split for debt liabilities (Table A9-IV) for each instrument and sector			
	Integrated IIP statement with positions, transactions, and other changes in volume, exchange rate changes and other revaluations (as shown in Table 7.1) by asset and liability category; also changes in positions due to			

Category	Sub-Category	Timeliness (e.g., T+30 days, T+3 months, etc.)	Granularity (e.g. level of detail)	Limitations (e.g., any missing lines)
	transactions by other parties (see para. 9.16)			
	Contingent assets / liabilities (see para. 5.10)			

Annex IV. Government Finance Statistics (GFS) Alignment Framework – Concepts, Accounting Rules, and Methods

The following tables identify the key assessment questions related to (i) key concepts, (ii) methods, (iii) accounting rules, and (iv) classifications against which alignment with the *Government Finance Statistics Manual 2014* (*GFSM 2014*) can be assessed. The key concepts and definitions proposed are in line with the statistical best practices outlined in the *GFSM 2014*. The key concepts are broadly based on the IMF's Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF) Questionnaire.

I. GFS* Alignment Framework – Metadata

Do you publish annual GFS?	Y/N	Insert link:
How soon after the end of the year are the data published?	*(select from dropdown)*	
Do you publish quarterly GFS?	Y/N	Insert link:
How soon after the end of the year are the data published?	*(select from dropdown)*	
Do you publish monthly GFS?	Y/N	Insert link:
How soon after the end of the year are the data published?	*(select from dropdown)*	
Do you follow one of IMF's data dissemination standards?	Y/N	
Of which standard are you a subscriber (SDDS+ / SDDS / e-GDDS)?	*(select from dropdown)*	
Do you have a published revision policy?	Y/N	Insert link:
Is the GFS revision policy consistent with the National Accounts revision policy?	Y/N	Insert link
If the answer to the above question is no, are there reasons why not?		
Do you have a published list of government and/or public sector units?	Y/N	Insert link:
How frequently is the list updated?	*(select from dropdown)*	
Is the process of producing the list published?	Y/N	Insert link:
Are the different GFS publications harmonized and consistent?	Y/N	
Are high frequency GFS consistent with annual GFS?	Y/N	*(additional detail)*
Are public sector debt statistics consistent with other GFS data?	Y/N	*(additional detail)*
Are the published GFS harmonized and coherent with National Accounts publications?	Y/N	*(additional detail)*
Are the published GFS harmonized and coherent with External Sector Statistics publications?	Y/N	*(additional detail)*
Other Documentation – useful links		
Topic Theme	Insert name:	Insert link:
Topic Theme	Insert name:	Insert link:
Topic Theme	Insert name:	Insert link:

* GFS (Government Finance Statistics) is used here and later to refer to GFS as defined in the *GFSM 2014* (which provides a framework for the preparation of public sector financial statistics, including debt statistics)

II. GFS Alignment Framework – Coverage (Institutional and Stock/Flow)

	BCG	EBCG	CG	SSF	SG	LG	GG	NFPC	FPC	PS
What is the accounting bases of the statistics (CA, AC, PA)?										
Are the data consolidated (Y/N)?										
What is the highest frequency of publication (A, Q, M)?										
Revenue										
Expenditure – economic classification										
Expenditure – functional classification (COFOG)										
Transactions in financial assets and liabilities										
Nonfinancial assets (stocks)										
Financial assets (stocks)										
Liabilities - including debt (stocks)										
Other economic flows										
Contingent liabilities (stocks)										

BCG = Budgetary Central Government, EBCG = Extrabudgetary Central Government, CG = Central Government, SSF = Social Security Funds, LG = Local Government, GG = General Government, NFPC = Nonfinancial Public Corporations, FPC = Financial Public Corporation, PS = Public Sector, CA = Cash, AC = Accrual, PA = Partial Accrual*, A = Annual, Q = Quarterly, M = Monthly.

(* Partial Accrual may indicate that either some items/interactions are recorded on a cash basis and others on an accrual basis; or that all items/interactions are neither recorded on a pure cash or a pure accrual basis.)

“NP” to be used if institutional sector not applicable to country, “NA” if institutional sector is applicable but data are not compiled/published.

III. GFS Alignment Framework – Concepts, Accounting Rules, and Methods

Use the framework to indicate the degree of alignment with the GFS concepts, definitions, methods, accounting rules: (i) **fully aligned** with the recommendation means that between **95–100 percent** of the recommendation is implemented, (ii) **highly aligned** with the recommendation means between **75–95 percent** of the recommendation is implemented, (iii) **broadly aligned** with the recommendations means between **50–75 percent** of the recommendations is implemented, (iv) **partially aligned** with the recommendation means between **25–50 percent** of the recommendation is implemented, (v) **not aligned with the recommendation** means that between **0–25 percent** of the recommendation is implemented; and (vi) **the recommendation is not applicable**—meaning that for issues of materiality the recommendation is not implemented.

Category	Sub-Category	Fully Aligned	Highly aligned	Broadly Aligned	Partially Aligned	Not Aligned	N/A
A. Concepts and definitions *GFS concepts identify and define what units, activities, interactions, and notions get recognized and measured in GFS. Examples are the concept of the general government sector, and the concept of debt liabilities.*							
	i) Units of general government include:						
	All central government budgetary units						
	Territorial enclaves in the rest of the world						
	All state government units						
	All local government units						
	All social security funds						
	All non-market nonprofit institutions (NPIs) controlled by government units						
	All non-financial corporations controlled by government which do not meet the criteria to be market producers						
	All financial corporations controlled by government which do not meet the criteria to be market producers						
	ii) Public corporations include:						
	Central Bank, and central supervisory authorities which are financial auxiliaries						
	All non-financial corporations controlled by government which are institutional units and meet the criteria to be market producers						
	All financial corporations controlled by government which are institutional units and meet the criteria to be market producers						
	iii) Revenue includes only those transactions which increase net worth						
	- In particular, the following concepts are followed:						
	In-kind revenues are included						
	Transactions in debt forgiveness (to government) are included						

	All social contributions are included without consolidation (as these are treated as transactions between households and government)						
	Only that portion of dividends which do not meet the “super-dividend test” (see GFSM 2014 paras. 5.115-6) are included						
	Only taxes and social contributions where there is a realistic expectation of collection are included						
	Principal payments related to (policy) lending are excluded						
	Privatisation proceeds are excluded (and included instead as disposals of equity)						
	Non-financial asset sale proceeds are excluded (and included as transactions in nonfinancial assets)						
	iv) Expense includes only those transactions which decrease net worth						
	- In particular, the following concepts are followed:						
	In-kind expenses are included						
	Consumption of fixed capital is included						
	Compensation of employees includes all amounts payable to employees in the form of cash, goods, services, interest foregone (etc.) in return for work performed						
	Compensation of employees includes imputed employers’ social contributions related to pension, and other social benefit, entitlements						
	Subsidies only include transfers made to enterprises based on their production levels or quantities						
	Capital injections are included where there is no effective financial claim or expectation of realistic return						
	Transactions in debt forgiveness (by government) are included						
	All capital transfers (external and domestic) are included						
	Acquisitions of equity and (policy) lending are excluded						
	v) Transactions, flows, and stocks in non-financial assets are reported						
	- In particular, the following items are included:						
	Buildings (such as government offices, army barracks, public monuments, schools, and hospitals)						
	Infrastructure (such as roads, bridges, railways, tunnels, sewers, harbors, dams, power lines)						
	Transport equipment (such as cars, trains, planes)						
	ICT equipment (such as computer hardware, telecommunications equipment)						
	Cultivated biological resources (such as trees, crops)						

	Research and development products						
	Mineral exploration and evaluation (whether successful or not)						
	Weapons systems (such as warships, submarines, tanks, missile carriers and launchers, etc.)						
	Inventories						
	Natural resources (such as land, mineral and energy resources, radio spectrum)						
	Contracts, leases and licenses (such as transferable permits to use natural resources or to undertake a specific activity)						
	vi) Transactions, flows, and stocks in financial assets and liabilities are reported						
	- In particular, the following items are included:						
	Monetary gold (assets only)						
	Special Drawing Rights						
	Currency and deposits						
	Debt securities						
	Loans						
	Equity						
	Pension entitlements and/or Claims of pension funds on pension managers, for employment-related pensions (as applicable)						
	Provisions for calls under standardized guarantee schemes						
	Financial derivatives						
	Other accounts receivable / payable						
B. Accounting Rules *The GFS accounting rules reflect the guidelines that compilers should follow when recording stocks, transactions, and other economic flows. They determine how activities get recorded, for example accrual basis of recording principle.*							
	Valuation						
	All stocks, transactions, and other economic flows are recorded using a single unit of account (usually the domestic currency)						
	Stocks of financial assets and liabilities are valued at market prices						
	Debt statistics are produced at nominal value						
	Stocks of non-financial assets are valued at market prices						
	Transactions in non-financial produced fixed assets are net of consumption of fixed capital						
	Transactions in non-financial produced assets include costs of ownership transfer (such as fees, taxes, transport and installation charges)						
	Costs of ownership transfer related to nonfinancial non-produced assets						

	are included as non-financial produced (fixed) assets						
	Transactions in foreign currency are converted using the mid-point exchange rate prevailing in the market when they take place						
	Stocks in foreign currency are converted using the exchange rate prevailing in the market at the time of measurement						
	Consumption of fixed capital, where reported, is valued at current replacement cost.						
	Time of Recording						
	Transactions and flows are recorded on an accrual basis						
	- In particular:						
	Interest is recorded as accruing continuously, over the period that the financial asset to which it relates exists						
	Rent is recorded as accruing continuously, over the period of the resource lease						
	Dividends are recorded when the corporation declares the dividend payable						
	Fines and penalties are recorded when the recipient has an unconditional claim to the funds						
	Transactions in non-financial assets are recorded when economic ownership of the assets changes						
	Where there is a material difference between when goods are purchased and used, they are first recognized as inventories before being expensed						
	Consolidation						
	Internal transactions within an institutional unit are consolidated and not recorded						
	Transactions between units within a subsector are consolidated and not recorded in the GFS for that subsector						
	Transactions between government (or public sector) sub-sectors are consolidated and not recorded in the GFS for the general government sector (or public sector)						
	Internal stock positions within an institutional unit are consolidated and not recorded						
	Stock positions between units within a sub-sector are consolidated and not recorded in the GFS for that subsector						
	Stock positions between government (or public sector) subsectors are consolidated and not recorded in the GFS for the general government sector (or public sector)						

C. Methods *IESSs methods are closely associated with concepts accounting rules. One way to interpret a method is to view it as the way a macroeconomic accountant implements an accounting rule or measures a concept. For example, one compiler may decide to report taxes using a time adjusted cash method and another following the assessment/declaration approach. Both are following the same accrual time of recording accounting rule, but both have used different methods to apply the rule.*							
	Taxes are recorded using either the time-adjusted cash method or the assessment/declaration approach (see GFSM 2014 para. 3.80)						
	Costs incurred in own-account capital formation are treated solely as transactions in nonfinancial assets and are excluded from expense						
	Employment-related pension liabilities are calculated using an actuarial approach (and related property expenses, and employers' social contributions within compensation of employees, imputed)						
	Dividend payments are assessed using the "super-dividend test" and split between revenue/expense and transactions in financial assets/liabilities, as required						
	Capital injections are assessed using the "capital injection decision tree" and split between expense/revenue and transactions in financial assets/liabilities, as required						
	The nature of leases is carefully examined to distinguish operating leases from financial leases						
	The risk and reward assessment of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) is conducted to determine whether or not the assets should be on the public sector balance sheet						

IV. GFS Alignment Framework – Classifications & Accounts/Tables

Category	Sub-Category	Reported (Y/N)	Timeliness	Level of Detail	Omissions (if applicable)
Presentation: Accounts and Tables (includes classifications)					
	Statement of Operations	Y/N			
	Revenue	Y/N			
	Expense	Y/N			
	Transactions in Nonfinancial Assets, Financial Assets, and Liabilities	Y/N			
	Expenditure by COFOG	Y/N			
	- including, Cross-Classification of Expenditure by Function (COFOG) and Economic Classifications	Y/N			
	Statement of Sources and Uses of Cash	Y/N			
	Statement of Other Economic Flows	Y/N			
	Balance Sheet	Y/N			
	Integrated Statement of Flows and Stock Positions	Y/N			
	Statement of Total Changes in Net Worth	Y/N			
	Summary Statement of Explicit Contingent Liabilities and Net Implicit Obligations for Future Social Security Benefits	Y/N			
	Gross Debt at Market, Nominal, and Face Value	Y/N			
	Net Debt at Market, Nominal, and Face Value	Y/N			
	Counterparty of Transactions in Financial Assets and Liabilities by Institutional Sector	Y/N			
	Counterparty of Stocks in Financial Assets and Liabilities by Institutional Sector	Y/N			