

Vanuatu

General Data Dissemination System (GDDS) for Vanuatu

In November 2000, Vanuatu joined its other member regional countries to attend a two weeks General Data Dissemination System (GDDS) workshop held in Suva, Fiji. The attendees were from the Reserve Bank of Vanuatu, Department for Social and Economic Planning and National Statistics Office. Prior to this workshop, Vanuatu has already committed itself to being a member of the GDDS.

The main purpose for this workshop was to get the GDDS member countries compile their GDDS with IMF providing the lead facilitating role supported by a number of professional staff from regional and international organisations. After the workshop, further work has been done in country by the tree representatives to make sure all sections of the GDDS data categories are completed with correct information.

The final version of the Vanuatu GDDS is now available on the IMF website at : <http://dsbb.imf.org/Applications/web/gdds/gddscountrycategorylist/?strcode=VUT>

Data Integrity and Access by the Public information below:



AS PROVIDED BY VANUATU AS A PARTICIPANT IN THE GDDS



Vanuatu

Table C. Data Integrity and Access by the Public

National Statistics Office

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Date Metadata Updated: March 2004

Date Metadata Certified: March 2004

I. Data Produced and Disseminated

a. Comprehensive Frameworks

The agency is responsible for production and dissemination of comprehensive frameworks in the following areas:

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. National Accounts | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | 3. Depository Corporations Survey | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2. Central Government Operations | <input type="radio"/> | 4. Balance of Payments | <input type="radio"/> |

b. Data Categories

The agency is responsible for production and dissemination of the following data categories:

Real Sector

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| National accounts aggregates | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| Production index/indices | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| Price indices | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| Labor market indicators | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

Fiscal Sector

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Central government aggregates | <input type="radio"/> |
| Central government debt | <input type="radio"/> |

Socio-Demographic Data

- | | |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| Population | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| Health | <input type="radio"/> |
| Education | <input type="radio"/> |
| Poverty | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

Financial Sector

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Broad money and credit aggregates | <input type="radio"/> |
| Central bank aggregates | <input type="radio"/> |
| Interest rates | <input type="radio"/> |
| Stock market | <input type="radio"/> |

External Sector

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Balance of payments aggregates | <input type="radio"/> |
| External debt and debt service | <input type="radio"/> |
| International reserves | <input type="radio"/> |
| Merchandise trade | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| Exchange Rates | <input type="radio"/> |

II. Data Integrity

a. Terms and Conditions Under which Data are Produced and Disseminated

All statistical activities are undertaken according to the Vanuatu Statistics Office Act 1983. ~~Statistics Act~~ Access to the act by the public if interested.

All staff recruited whether permanent or temporary have to sign a secrecy form that forbids release of confidential data.

The Act officially establishes the VNSO and as an independent Government institution. Section 4 of the Act (Collection of Statistics and access to Public Records) defines the scope in which statistics can be collected by the Vanuatu Statistics Office. Section 5 (Census) empowers the VNSO to conduct censuses whenever appropriate.

See the NSO website for further information. <http://www.spc.int/stats/vanuatu/>

b. Identification of internal Government Access to Data Before Release

Data for publication are not distributed to any persons outside the Statistics Office prior to publication-except that, as part of editing procedures certain key publications are discussed with members of the Macroeconomic committee (Reserve Bank of Vanuatu, Department of Economic and Social

Development, Finance Department, National Statistics Office) prior to finalising estimates for publication

c. Identification of Ministerial Commentary on the Occasion of Statistical Releases

d. Provision of Information about Revisions and Advance Notice of Major Changes in Methodology

III. Access to Data by the Public

a. Simultaneous Release to the Public

Simultaneous access is achieved through press releases carried in the media (radio or newspapers) announcing the release of publications.

b. Advance Release Calendars

The Office has a publication schedule for its monthly news, quarterly news bulletin and annual reports. This is not published officially, but is displayed publicly in the reception area of the NSO where many users come to collect publications and request data. The schedule is updated annually and in most cases the actual releases have matched the scheduled dates.

IV. Plans for Improvement

Recent Improvements

Monthly news items about major data releases and developments are now being sent by email as well as being available as hard copies.

Initiated the dissemination of statistics through the office Internet website (presently hosted at <http://www.spc.int/stats/vanuatu>).

Short Term

Strengthen the NSO website by publishing additional data sets , documentation for data sources and methods, and detailing current and planned operations of the NSO.

Medium Term

Publish more social statistics (health and education) by establishing closer working relationships/network with other agencies. Work with other offices that have data needed by NSO to establish a good system for capturing and sharing the data .

Technical Assistance/Financing Needs/Other Prerequisites

Short Term

Involvement with the SPC/PRISM project for the development of NSO Internet websites across all Pacific Island countries.

Medium Term