



IMF's SPECIAL DATA DISSEMINATION STANDARD (SDDS)

In May 2000 Bulgaria joined the IMF's General Data Dissemination System (GDDS). Three Bulgarian institutions – **Bulgarian National Bank (BNB)**, **National Statistical Institute (NSI)**, and **Ministry of Finance (MoF)** – in their common letter to IMF declared that they accept GDDS as a frame for development of national statistics. It was a step further to development of statistics and improvement of statistical data quality in compliance with the international standards. The GDDS usage as a frame for development of statistics creates conditions for production and dissemination of reliable, exhaustive, timely and accessible for the wide public economic, financial and socio-demographic data.

In the worked out Strategy for Development of Statistics up to 2006 as a next step was included the task for gradual implementation of the IMF Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) requirements and subscription not later then 2006.

The work on implementation of the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) requirements and the country preparation for the SDDS subscription continued in 2003.

Bulgaria was included in the IMF's program for development of the Reports on Observance of Standards and Codes – ROSCs. A Mission from the IMF's Statistics Department visited our country with the objective to prepare that report during January 15 – 30, 2003. This Report on the Observance of Standards and Codes ([ROSC](#)) data module provides a review of Bulgaria's data dissemination practices against the IMF's Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS), complemented by an in-depth assessment of the quality of the national accounts, consumer price index (CPI), producer price index (PPI), government finance, monetary, and balance of payments statistics.

The President of the NSI, the Minister of Finance and the Governor of the BNB in their common letter to the IMF as of February 03, 2003 declared that the Republic of Bulgaria takes the commitment to work towards subscription to the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS). Since May 2003, Bulgaria has been working closely with the IMF staff towards subscription to the SDDS within the framework of its participation in the GDDS and in the national metadata last update.

A mission from the IMF's Statistics Department visited Bulgaria during September 3 – 10, 2003 in connection with the country subscription to the SDDS preparation. The aim of the mission was to assess Bulgaria's data categories dissemination practices with respect to the IMF's Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) and to give recommendations on finalizing the work on Bulgaria's subscription to the SDDS. In this connection the mission made a review and discussed with the staff from the three institutions – NSI, BNB and MoF questions related to: metadata on base pages, dissemination format pages and summary methodology pages; development of the National Summary Data Page (NSDP) and the International Reserves and Foreign Currency Liquidity (Reserves template); preparation of External debt data in SDDS required format; and development of Advance Release Calendar (ARC) issues. The mission found that Bulgaria meets the SDDS requirements and the Bulgarian authorities' planned date to formalize its subscription to the SDDS is December 19, 2003, and under certain circumstances the subscription to the SDDS may be formalized even earlier.

Bulgaria formalized its subscription to the IMF's SDDS on December 1, 2003 and became the 55-th subscribing-country.

The National Summary Data Page (NSDP) is posted on the [BNB website](#).

National metadata pages are available in SDDS format and DQAF format on the IMF's Dissemination Standards Bulletin Board – [DSBB website](#).

Advance release calendar (ARC) is posted on the [BNB website](#) and on the [IMF's website](#).

The three compiling agencies – **NSI, BNB and MoF** - are responsible for the regular updating of the information posted on the websites.