



Workshop on Compilation of International Merchandise Trade Statistics

Trade Data Processing

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
8-11 November 2004**



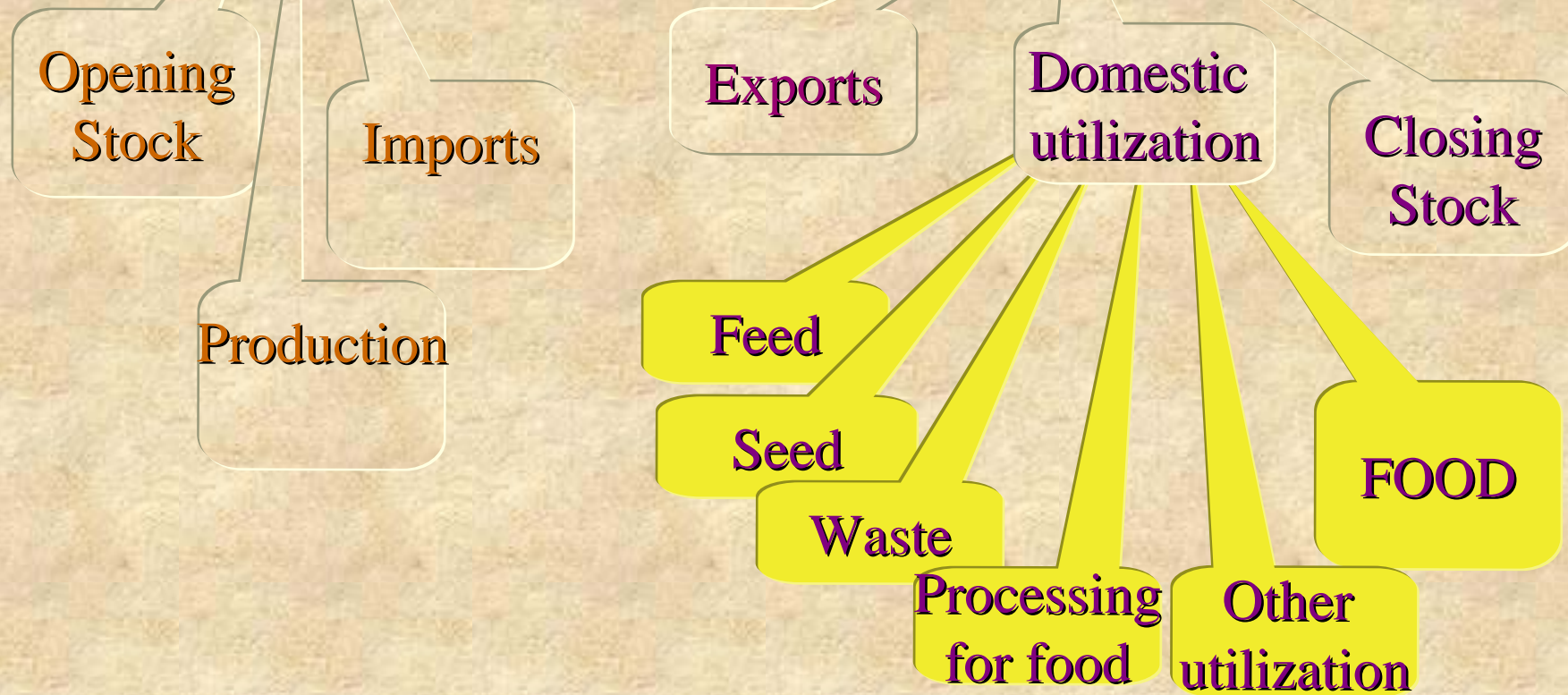
One of the most important attributes of FAO's statistical activities is the implementation of an integrated statistical system to permit the inter-linked presentation of production, trade, stocks and utilisation of food and agricultural commodities.

The FAO database FAOSTAT, which is one of the most comprehensive databases on the food and agricultural sector, covers more than 200 countries and 1,019 commodity accounts of which: 441 are for crops and crop products, 233 for livestock and livestock products, 147 for fish and fishery products as well as agriculture inputs and population.



The statistics of any single commodity have to be traced all the way from production and utilization to final consumption.

Supply = Utilization





Food consumption is strongly influenced by many elements and this is the reason why FAO statistical database FAOSTAT (<http://apps.fao.org/default.htm>), has been designed to correlate the supply of commodities with their utilisation, to reflect the regional or national particularities and consumption traditions, to evaluate food and agriculture needs.

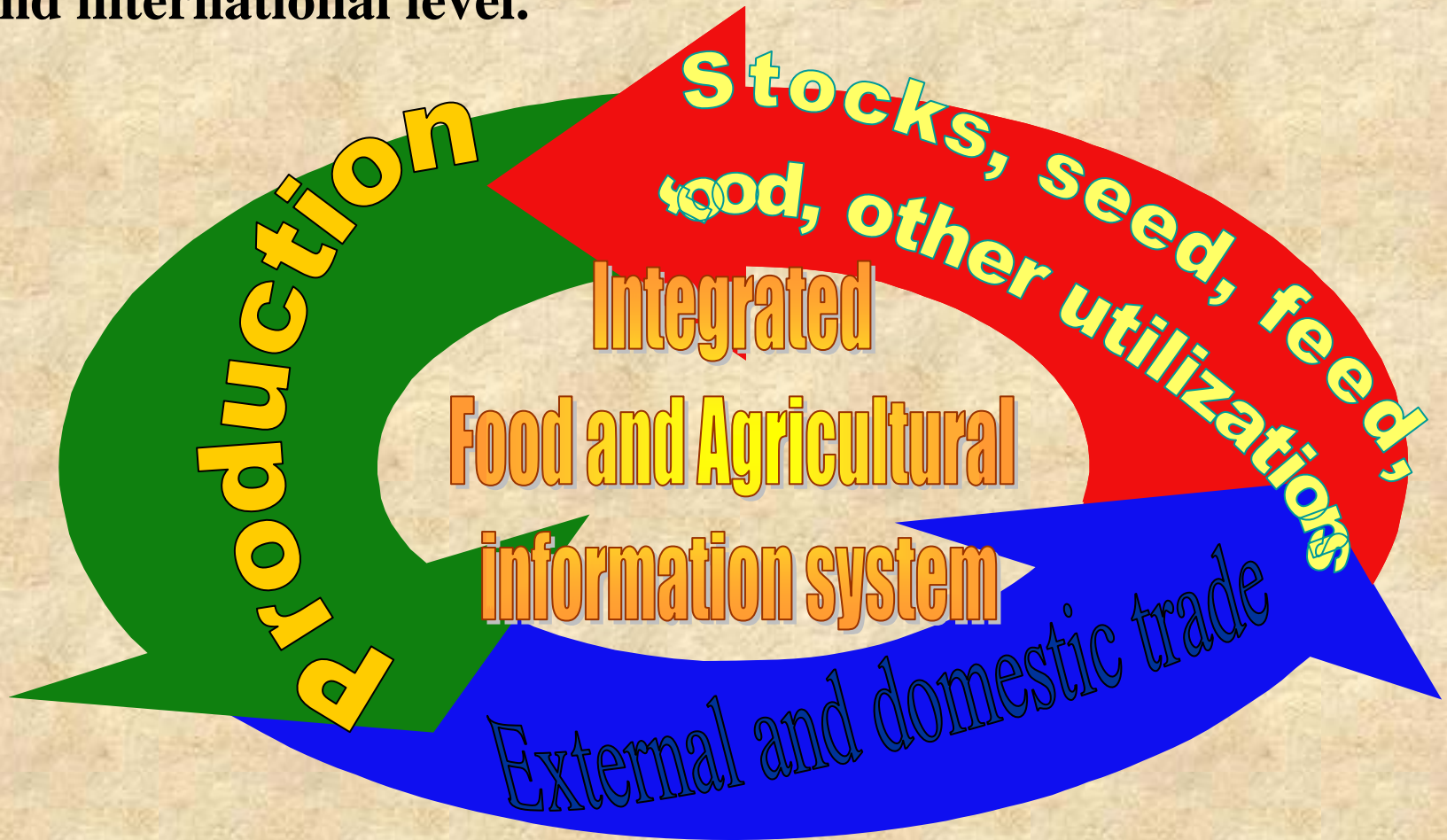
Agricultural statistics

Food and agricultural trade

Agricultural production



In fact the food and agricultural information system is an integrated system which requires the harmonisation of the statistical concepts, definitions and classifications at the national and international level.



◆ Trade Statistical Methodology

- **Concepts, definitions**
- **Classifications**
- **Coverage of the data, periodicity**

◆ Trade data Processing

- **Data collection**
 - **Methods of data collection**
 - **Characteristics of basic material availability, detail level, quality,**
- **Data processing**
 - **Editing and Imputation strategies**
 - **Application software**
- **Data dissemination**
 - **Dissemination strategies**
 - **Confidentiality**

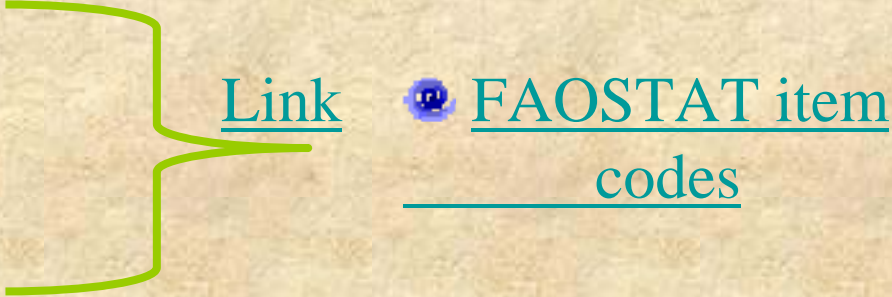


◆ Trade Statistical Methodology

● Classifications:

✚ SITC Rev3

✚ HS 1992, 1996, 2002



● Statistical Territories





FAO trade data sources and data collection System

•Electronic files

- country request including the specifications on the standard layout of the trade data file;
- conventions between FAO and other international organizations (UN, EU, OECD)

•Questionnaires

- hardcopy questionnaires
- virtual questionnaire

•Other forms:

- Traditional publications (trade yearbooks)
- Virtual publications (web sites)

FAO trade metadata

FAO Data Collection

National Authorities and Contacts

National Data Sources

Country Methodology and Classifications

- **General Information**
- **Top 10 Imports (in % of value)**
- **Top 10 Exports (in % of value)**

- **External Trade Legislation**
- **Statistical Methodology**
- **Classifications**
- **Data Coverage**

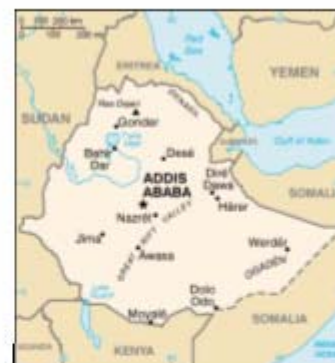
Data Dissemination

- **Periodicity**
- **Dissemination Format**
- **Publications available in the library**
- **Other Web Addresses**





External Trade in: Ethiopia



FAO Data Collection

National Authorities and Contacts

Ministry of Finance and Economic Development - Central Statistical Authority

P.O. Box 1143, Addis Ababa

+251-1-55 30 11 (phone)

+251-1-55 03 34 (fax)

CSA@telecom.net.et (email)

Contact: Mr. Mageru Haile

Team leader of Trade Statistics

+251-1-55 30 11, 11 51 31, 55 04 50 (phone)

+251-1-55 03 34 (fax)

csadp@telecom.net.et (email)

Contact: Yasin Mossa

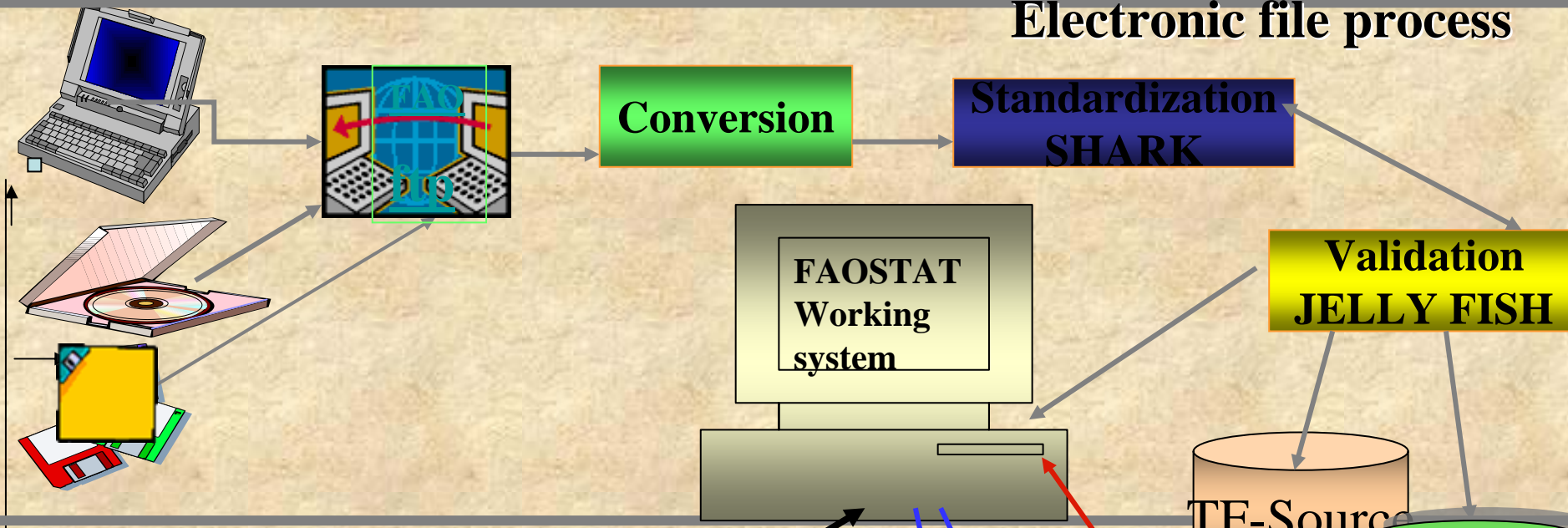
Head of Industry and Trade Stat. Dept

csadp@telecom.net.et (email)

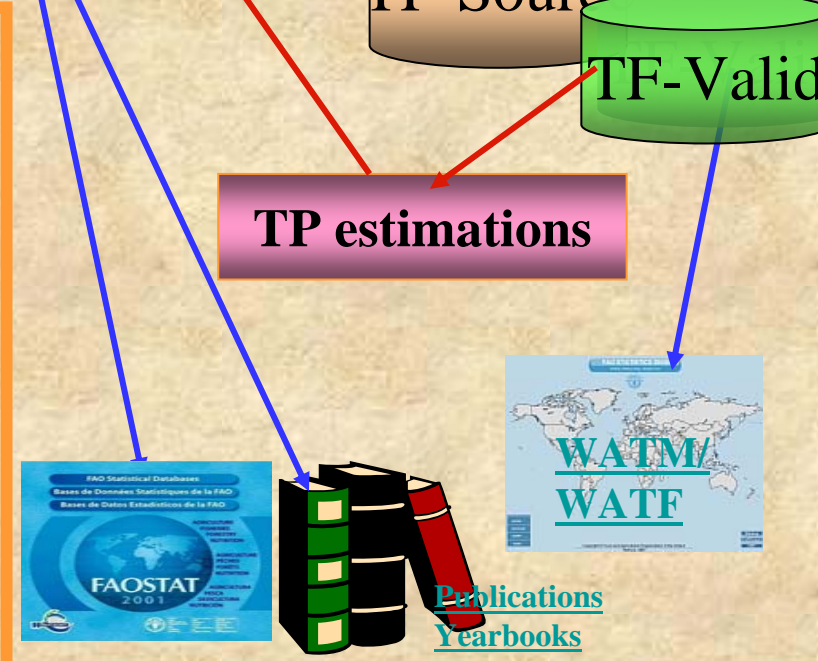
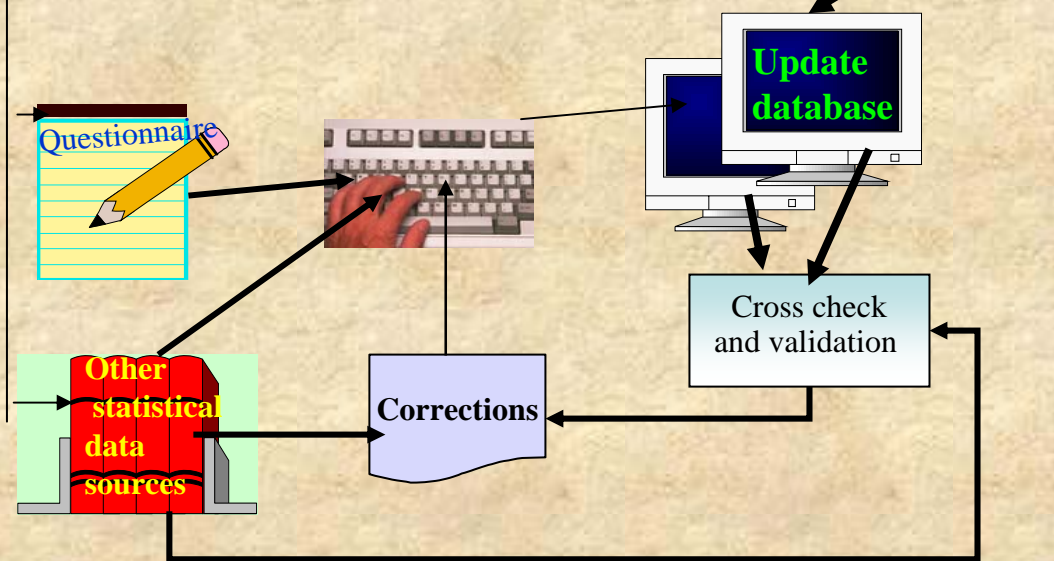
National Data Sources

FAO - Trade data activity

Electronic file process



Non-electronic data process



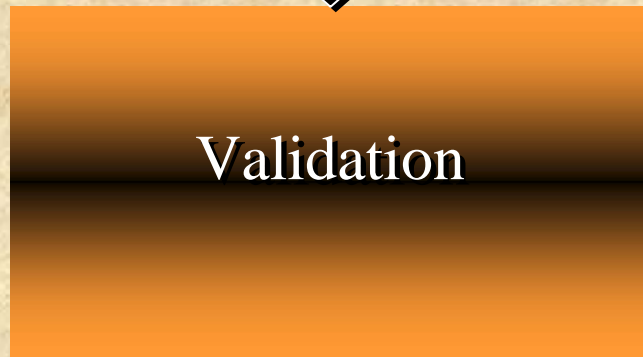
Preparation of the trade publication



Overview:

TradeSys is made up basically of two principal components:

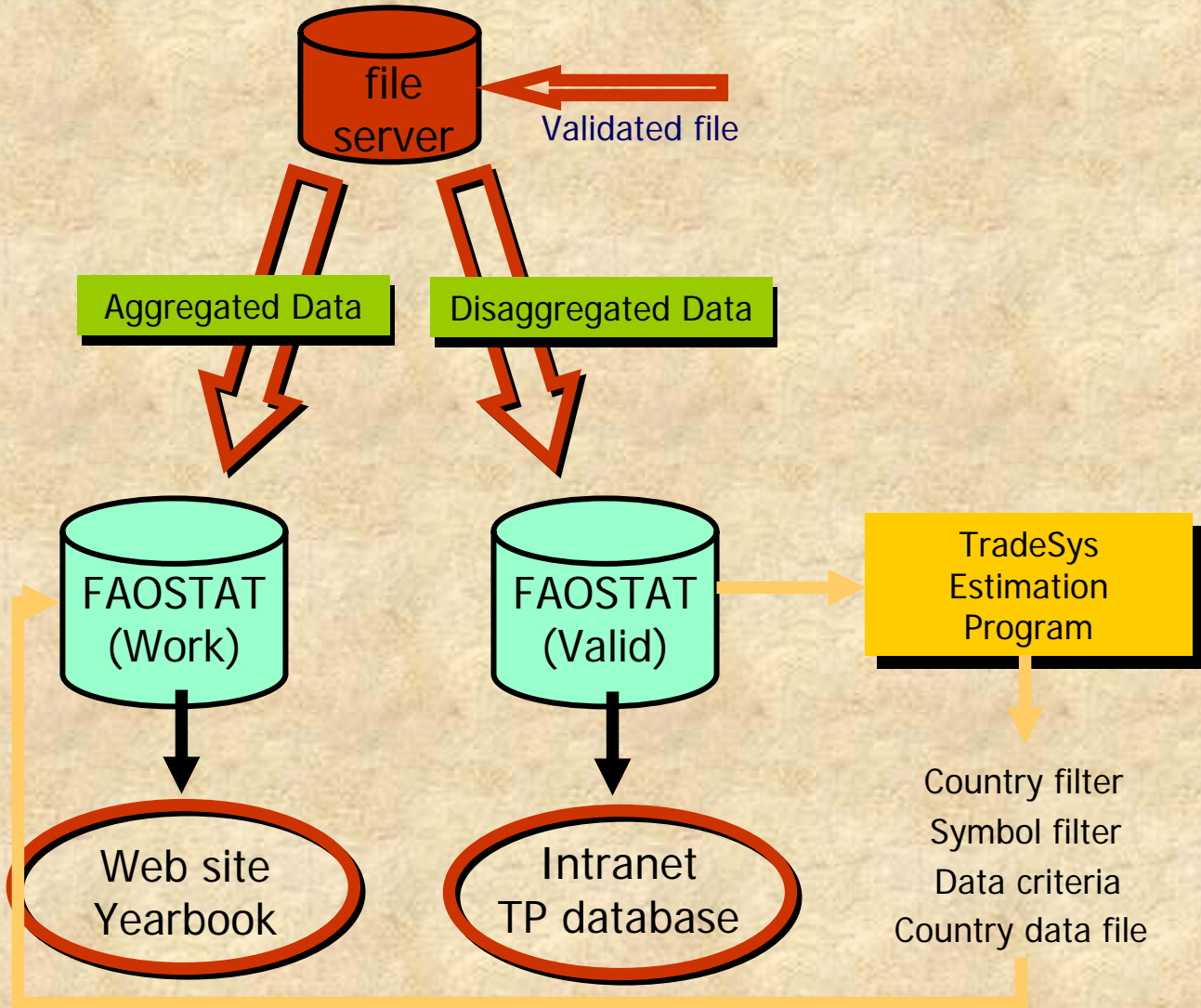
- Standard format
- Country code link
- Commodity filters
- Commodity code link
- Currency & quantity unit conversion
- Aggregation by commodity



- apply 'Notes'
- missing item links
- comparison to time-series data
- graphics showing quantity, value, unit value trends
- data corrections/ adjustments
- upload of data

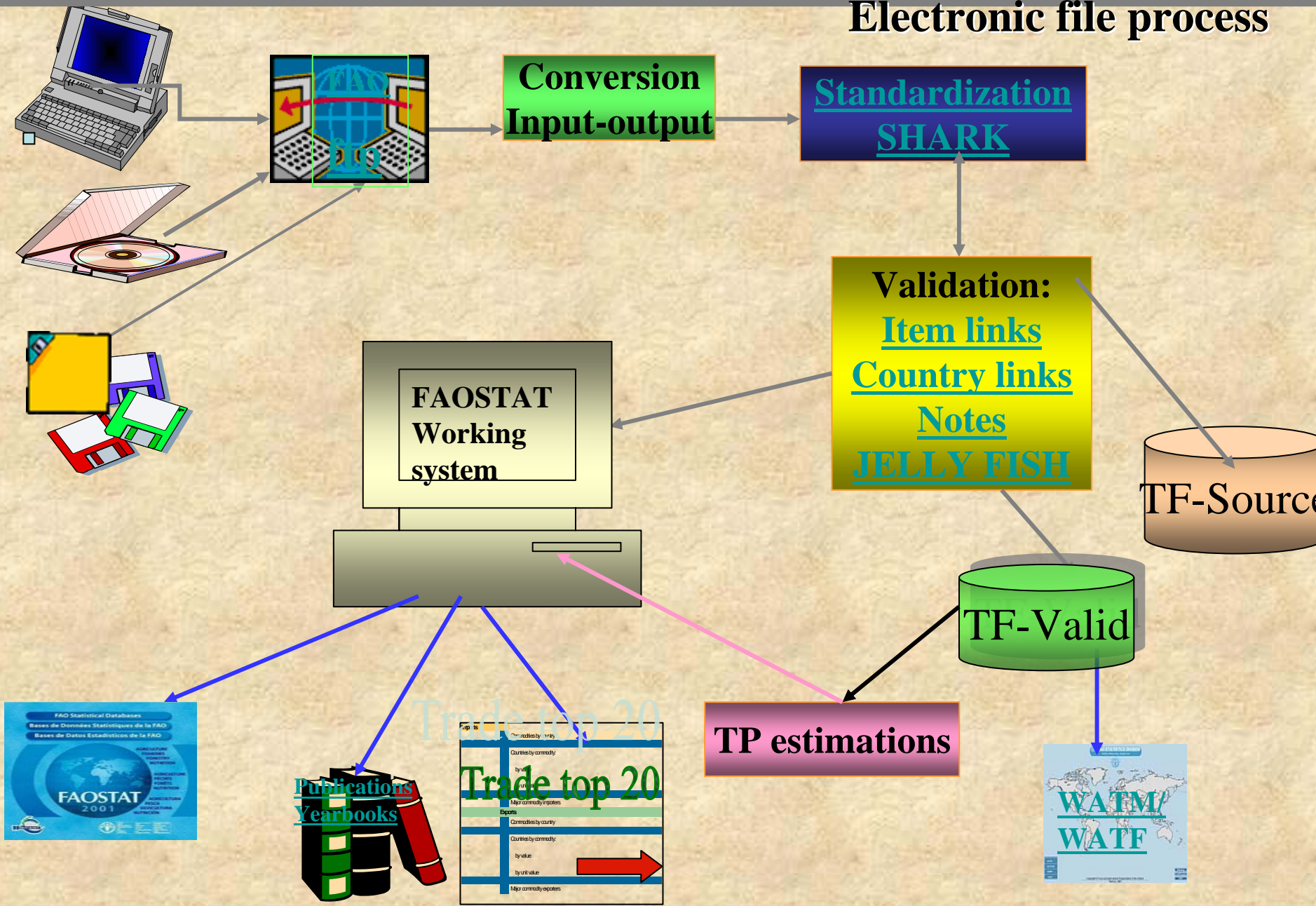


Data upload:



Trade data activity

Electronic file process



TP estimations

Trade top 20

Commodities by value
Countries by commodity
by value
by unit value
Map commodity exporters
Exports
Commodities by country
Countries by commodity
by value
by unit value
Map commodity exporters

Trade top 20

Process of the trade publications

Import Source File (Code:81 - Name:Ghana Year:2002)

Name of country

Ghana

Year Country code Reporting period

2002 81 Jan-Dec

Setting DataBase

\GHA_2002\GHA_2002.mdb

Storerd data

\GHA_2002\GHA_2002_TAD.mdb

Link table

Single

Classification

HS92

Import Digits

10

Export Digits

10

Exchange rate Imp

1.395208E-07

Exchange rate Exp

1.395208E-07

Stored

IMF

Quantity rate Imp

0.001

Quantity rate Exp

0.001

Data Mover

Original File

\GHA_2002\ghanaimpo02b.mdb

Type of original file

Access

Type of unit

Standard

Item table in Import

Custom

Item table in Export

Custom

ORIGINAL FILE Yes

SOURCE FILE Yes

SETTING FILE Yes

DATA FILE Yes

Download

1: Create/Save Country Directory

2: Choose Source File

3: Field Association

4: Set Quantity Units

4: Links

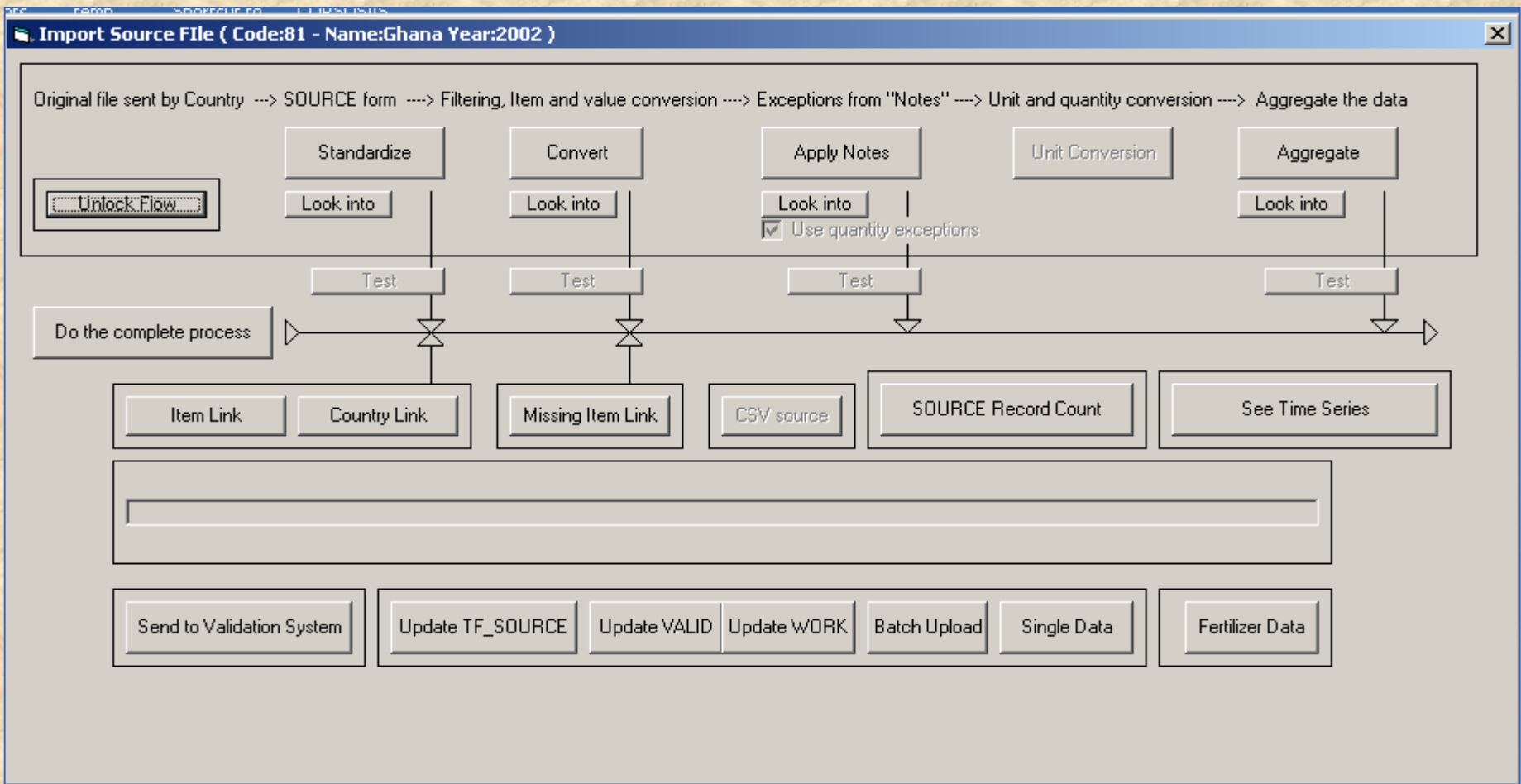
4: Notes

5: Start Processing

Responsibility of

MOSCO, Simona





Export

Import Series

Write Single Data

Codes	Item Names		1999	2000	2001	2002	2002	Warnings
15	WHEAT	Quantity [MT]	216,119 *	250,302 *	152,118		134,140	+UV
15	WHEAT	Value	53,114	40,469	48,776		47,435	
16	FLOUR OF WHEAT	Quantity [MT]	1,737	19,602	28,693		45,421	
16	FLOUR OF WHEAT	Value	456	5,459	7,395		13,979	
17	BRAN OF WHEAT	Quantity [MT]	20	990	0		1,984	-UV
17	BRAN OF WHEAT	Value	7	210	0		220	
18	MACARONI	Quantity [MT]	2,124	7,639	8,009		7,837	
18	MACARONI	Value	1,306	3,606	3,618		3,446	
19	GERM OF WHEAT	Quantity [MT]	0	0	1		0	+UV
19	GERM OF WHEAT	Value	1	1	1		0	
20	BREAD	Quantity [MT]	11	12	39		65	
20	BREAD	Value	13	7	36		56	
21	BULGUR	Quantity	0 M	0 M	0			
21	BULGUR	Value	0 M	0 M	0			
22	PASTRY	Quantity [MT]	3,672	2,111	3,795		4,093	
22	PASTRY	Value	4,670	3,120	3,119		3,325	
23	STARCH OF WHEAT	Quantity [MT]	0 M	2	0		1	
23	STARCH OF WHEAT	Value	0 M	3	0		3	
24	GLUTEN OF WHEAT	Quantity [MT]	0 M	0 M	0		1	
24	GLUTEN OF WHEAT	Value	0 M	0 M	0		0	
26	WHEAT FERMENTED BEVE	Quantity	0 M	0 M	0			
26	WHEAT FERMENTED BEVE	Value	0 M	0 M	0			
27	RICE PADDY	Quantity [MT]	31	4,112	51,325		22,186	
27	RICE PADDY	Value	37	1,232	10,839		5,415	
28	RICE HUSKED	Quantity [MT]	1	15	2,002 *		3,022	+UV

Quantity

Value

Notes

New Country Settings (Code:81 - Name:Ghana Year:2002)

Name of country
 Ghana

Year 2002 **Country code** 81 **Reporting period** Jan-Dec

Setting DataBase
 \GHA_2002\GHA_2002.mdb

Stored data
 \GHA_2002\GHA_2002_TAD.mdb

Link table Single **Classification** HS92

Import Digits 10 **Export Digits** 10

Exchange rate Imp 1.395208E-07 **Exchange rate Exp** 1.395208E-07
 Stored IMF

Quantity rate Imp 0.001 **Quantity rate Exp** 0.001

Original File
 \GHA_2002\ghanaimpo02b.mdb

Type of original file
 Access

Type of unit
 Standard

Item table in Import
 Custom

Item table in Export
 Custom

Responsibility of
 MOSCO, Simona

Minimize JF
 Help

1: Quantity Units
 1: All Links
 1: All Notes

2: New Links
 2: Missing Link
 2: Validation (EXP)
 2: Validation (IMP)

Item Code Ranges
 From To

3: Ready to load FAO STAT

Download Data SOURCE FILE Yes
 Help Download SETTING FILE Yes
 DATA FILE Yes



Import Series

Choose this data

Skip this data

Help

Codes	Item Names		1999	2000	2001	2002	2002	Symb
15	WHEAT	Quantity [M]	216,119 *	250,302 *	152,118		134,140	
15	WHEAT	Value	53,114	40,469	48,776		47,435	
16	FLOUR OF WHEAT	Quantity [M]	1,737	19,602	28,693		45,421	
16	FLOUR OF WHEAT	Value	456	5,459	7,395		13,979	
17	BRAN OF WHEAT	Quantity [M]	20	990	0		1,984	
17	BRAN OF WHEAT	Value	7	210	0		220	
18	MACARONI	Quantity [M]	2,124	7,639	8,009		7,837	
18	MACARONI	Value	1,306	3,606	3,618		3,446	
19	GERM OF WHEAT	Quantity [M]	0	0	1		0	
19	GERM OF WHEAT	Value	1	1	1		0	
20	BREAD	Quantity [M]	11	12	39		65	

Quantity

U.V

Value

Enable Notes Counter

Export

Refresh Data

Sort National

Sort FaoStat

All Notes

Related Notes

Link

New Exception

Help

Minimize JF



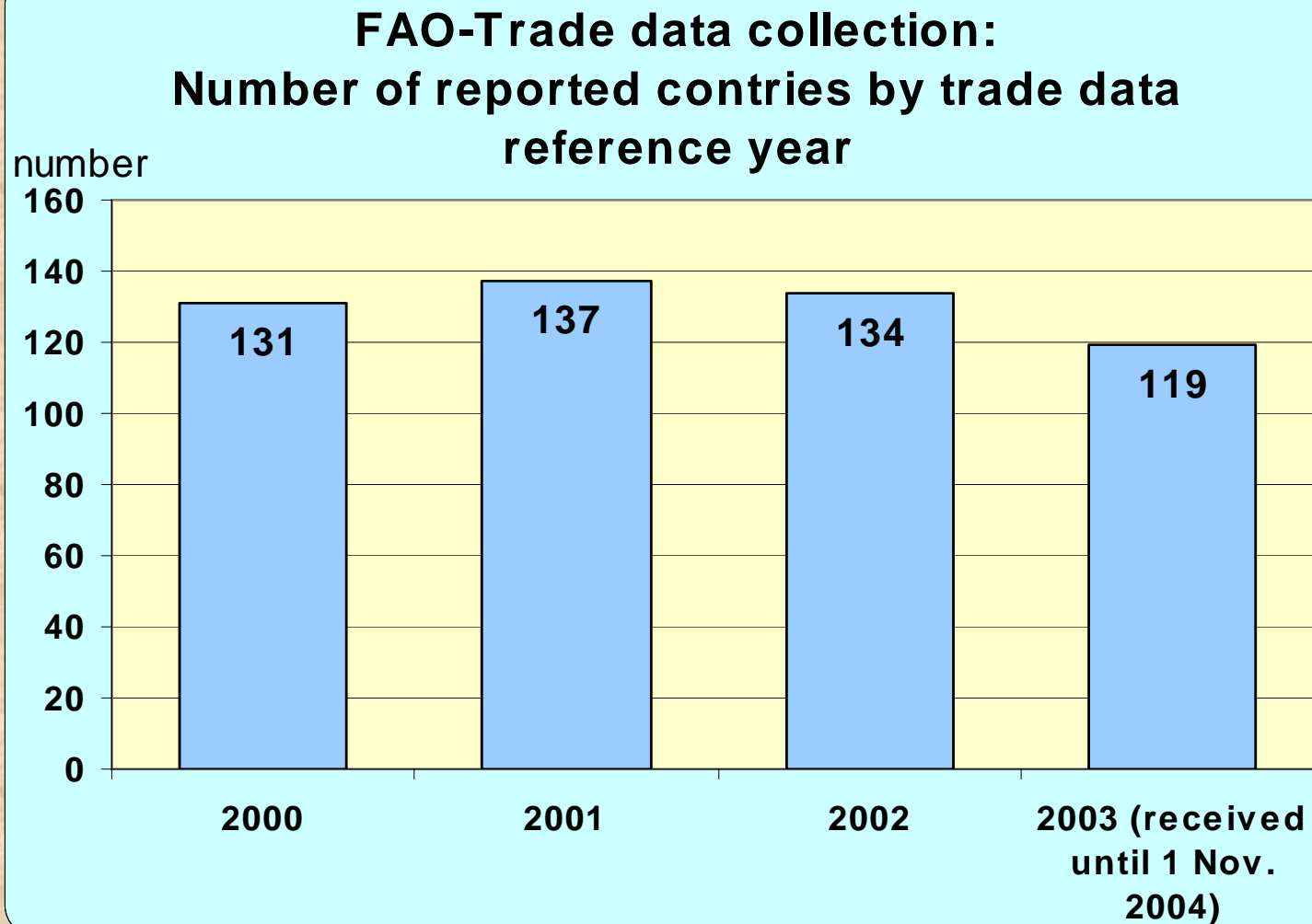
Trade data Processing

FAO trade monitoring system

Status of the trade data collection for the year 2003

Working region	Current status of trade data processing				Conversion	Standardized	%	9/15/04 14:10:53						
	2004							Files country/year						
	Total	Number of countries reported	Number of files/year received	% of reported countries				Validated	in Jelly Fish process	Analyzed	Uploaded into FAOSTAT			
Africa	54	20	32.0	37.0	32.0	32.0	100.0	26.0	6.0	26.0	26.0			
America	42	25	28.5	60.2	27.5	25.5	89.5	21.0	4.5	21.0	21.0			
Asia&Pacific	60	29	39.0	48.3	33.0	33.0	84.6	29.0	4.0	29.0	28.0			
Europe	50	45	47.0	90.0	46.0	46.0	97.9	31.0	15.0	24.0	24.0			
TOTAL	206	119	146.5	57.9	138.5	136.5	93.2	107.0	29.5	100.0	99.0			

FAO-Trade data availability



Microsoft Excel - African totAgr.xls

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help

Reply with Changes... End Review...

M32 500000

	A	B	C	D	E
1	AFRICA: TOTAL AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS [1000 US\$]				
2	in the YEAR 2002				
3			of total	tot. exp	
4	Africa TOTAL	14356352	100.0%	10.52%	
5	Côte d'Ivoire	3006919	20.9%	58.2%	
6	South Africa	2394555	16.7%	8.1%	
7	Morocco	810932	5.6%	10.4%	
8	Egypt	774193	5.4%	11.7%	
9	Ghana	659253	4.6%	40.0%	
10	Zimbabwe	621152	4.3%	28.2%	
11	Kenya	563073	3.9%	28.2%	
12	Cameroon	483476	3.4%	24.0%	
13	Nigeria	407163	2.8%	2.7%	
14	Tunisia	390861	2.7%	5.7%	
15	Malawi	383891	2.7%	83.0%	
16	Sudan	370207	2.6%	21.5%	
17	Ethiopia	346771	2.4%	72.2%	
18	Tanzania, United Rep o	337996	2.4%	38.6%	
19	Mauritius	326248	2.3%	17.8%	
20	Mali	264212	1.8%	28.8%	
21	Uganda	252351	1.8%	57.0%	
22	Benin	211547	1.5%	56.4%	
23	Madagascar	186064	1.3%	46.5%	
24	Namibia	180853	1.3%	18.1%	
25	Burkina Faso	153789	1.1%	65.0%	
26	Swaziland	141565	1.0%	14.7%	
27	Senegal	128752	0.9%	11.6%	
28	Zambia	108247	0.8%	8.3%	
29	Chad	103586	0.7%	54.5%	
30	Togo	86590	0.6%	34.6%	
31	Niger	81130	0.6%	29.1%	
32	Liberia	77500	0.5%	15.5%	
33	Mozambique	76282	0.5%	9.0%	

Two countries, namely Cote d'Ivoire and South Africa, account for one third (38%) of all African agricultural exports. While the bottom 17 countries account for only 1%.

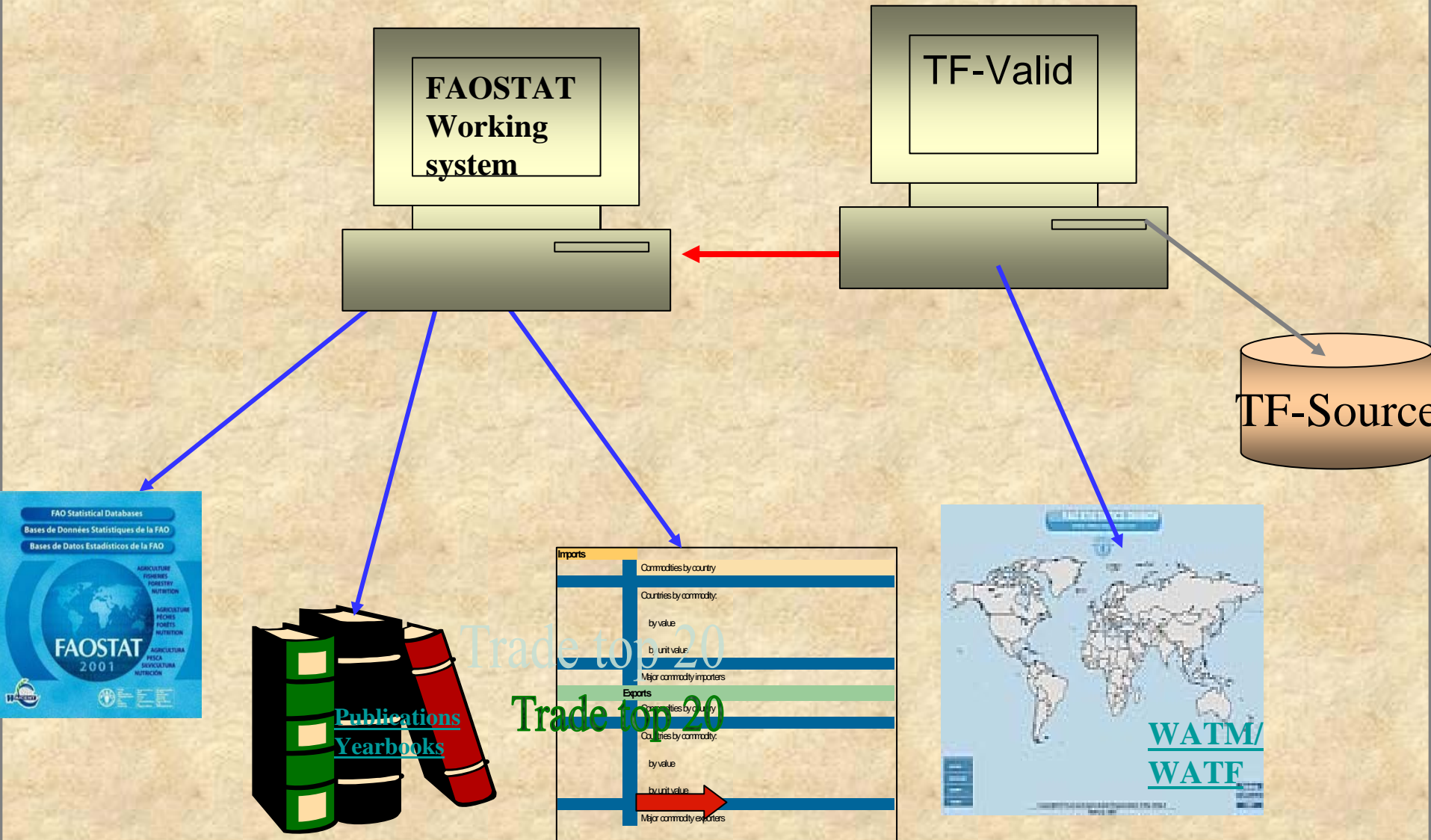
Cote d'Ivoire agricultural exports account for 21% of all African agricultural exports; yet account for only 11% of its total national exports.

The top 5 countries account for half of all African agricultural exports.

Malawi's agricultural exports have the highest share of total national exports (83%). Followed by Burundi at 72% and Burkina Faso at 65%



FAO - Trade data dissemination





THE STATISTICS DIVISION

ONLINE DATABASES
FAOSTAT

OTHER
STATISTICS

WORLD CENSUS
OF AGRICULTURE

CHARTROOM
FACTOIDS

PUBLICATIONS
- STUDIES

METHODOLOGY
- SYSTEMS

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
PROJECTS

MEETINGS AND
WORKSHOPS

FAO Constitution

The Organization shall collect, analyse, interpret and disseminate information relating to nutrition, food and agriculture. ...the term "agriculture" and its derivatives include fisheries, marine products, forestry and primary forestry products.....

World Agriculture Trade Flows

- A graphical presentation of the World's agricultural trade flows (WATF)
- An analytical presentation of the World's agricultural trade matrix (WATM)



News And Events

Statistics Division staff meeting with the Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Department, Mr. de Haen.



Statistics Brief

- **Major Food and Agricultural Commodities and Producers**
Agricultural production statistics for the 20 most important food and agricultural commodities (ranked by value) in a given country for the year indicated. Users can select by country and by commodity.
- **Key Statistics of Food and Agriculture External Trade**
- **World Crop and Livestock Statistics 1948-1985**
- **Global Food and Agricultural Perspectives: Map Presentation**
- **Food Balance Sheets Millennium Issue 1999-2001 Special Charts**



- **World Census of Agriculture 2000**
UPDATED 01.08.2004
New Results by Country
- **Summary of World Food and Agricultural Statistics 2003** **NEW 16.07.2004**
This report shows a broad range of statistics pertaining to world food and agriculture. It presents, where appropriate, the differences between developed and developing countries, continents and regions. **more...**
- **MDG Information Tool** **UPDATED 30.01.2004**
An information tool to support country level activities related to the monitoring of the Millennium Declaration and World Food Summit goals has been prepared by the Statistical Analysis Service. It contains general information on the Millennium Development Goals, the role of FAO and the monitoring reports prepared by FAO on the progress achieved by the different countries, using the most recent data available.
- **Statistics on prices** **UPDATED 15.01.2004**

Publications

- **Compendium of Food and Agricultural Indicators 2003**


THE STATISTICS DIVISION

[Site Map](#)
[Français](#)
[Español](#)

[ONLINE DATABASES FAOSTAT](#)
[OTHER STATISTICS](#)
[WORLD CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE](#)
[CHARTROOM FACTOIDS](#)
[PUBLICATIONS - STUDIES](#)
[METHODOLOGY - SYSTEMS](#)
[TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS](#)
[MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS](#)

<< BACK

KEY STATISTICS OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE EXTERNAL TRADE

Imports
 Commodities by country
 Countries by commodity:
 by value
 by unit value
 Major commodity importers

Exports
 Commodities by country
 Countries by commodity:
 by value
 by unit value
 Major commodity exporters

Links
[FAOSTAT](#)
[World Agriculture Trade Matrix](#)
[Country Data sources\(ABCDQ\)](#)
[FAO Country Profiles and Mapping Information System](#)
[Chart room](#)
[FACTOID](#)

Selected country: Selected year:

EXPORTS: Commodities by country

Commodity	Quantity	Value (000 US\$)	Unit value (US\$)
1 Beer of Barley	Mt 54427 *	41359	760
2 Beverages Non-Alcoholic	Mt 18129 *	21658	1195
3 Fish Meal	Mt 37680	20605	547
4 Sheep	Head 255358 *	19425	76
5 Beef and Veal,Boneless	Mt 16281 *	16849	1035
6 Beverages Dist Alcoholic	Mt 1247	9946	7976
7 Cattle	Head 14147	9257	654
8 Pastry	Mt 8225 *	8918	1084
9 Sugar (Centrifugal, Raw)	Mt 5436 *	7572	1393
10 Grapes	Mt 8245	6235	756
11 Mutton and Lamb	Mt 6280	5635	897
12 Goats	Head 42559 *	3568	84
13 Cigarettes	Mt 511	3290	6438
14 Sugar Confectionery	Mt 843	2976	3530
15 Oils Fish and Marine Mam	Mt 4414	2345	531
16 Food Prepared nes	Mt 533	1444	2709
17 Beef Preparations	Mt 1235	1394	1129
18 Wine	Mt 441 *	1273	2887
19 Oil of Sunflower Seed	Mt 379 *	1198	3161
20 Flour of Maize	Mt 1167	964	826

F = FAO estimate | M = Data not available | T = Trend calculation | * = Unofficial figure | Mt = Metric Ton

See also: FAO Country Profiles for Namibia



FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEPARTMENT

THE STATISTICS DIVISION

Site Map

Français
Español

ONLINE DATABASES
FAOSTAT

OTHER STATISTICS

WORLD CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

CHARTROOM FACTOIDS

PUBLICATIONS - STUDIES

METHODOLOGY - SYSTEMS

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS

MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

<< BACK

KEY STATISTICS OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE EXTERNAL TRADE

Imports

Commodities by country

Countries by commodity:

by value

by unit value

Major commodity importers

Exports

Commodities by country

Countries by commodity:

by value

by unit value

Major commodity exporters

Links

FAOSTAT

World Agriculture Trade Matrix

Country Data sources(ABCDG)

FAO Country Profiles and Mapping Information System

Chart room

FACTOID

Selected country:

Selected year:

IMPORTS: Commodities by country

	Commodity	Quantity	Value (000 US\$)	Unit value (US\$)
1	Sugar and Syrups nes	Mt 48324	12492	259
2	Maize	Mt 62963	10717	170
3	Food Wastes Prep Feed	Mt 53763	7738	144
4	Food Prepared nes	Mt 11845 *	7548	637
5	Beer of Barley	Mt 37451	7229	193
6	Flour of Wheat	Mt 22184 *	5769	260
7	Malt of Barley	Mt 18098	5710	316
8	Sugar Confectionery	Mt 4726	5382	1139
9	Beverages Dist Alcoholic	Mt 2451	4766	1945
10	Wheat	Mt 30599	4655	152
11	Oil of Sunflower Seed	Mt 6917 *	4559	659
12	Turkey Meat	Mt 2036 *	4186	2056
13	Sugar (Centrifugal, Raw)	Mt 12251	3436	280
14	Pastry	Mt 2894 *	3435	1187
15	Chicken Meat	Mt 3885 *	2956	761
16	Fruit Juice nes	Mt 4824	2462	510
17	Chocolate Products nes	Mt 1719	2425	1411
18	Vegetables Prepared nes	Mt 2172 *	2380	1096
19	Pigmeat	Mt 1394 *	2303	1652
20	Cigarettes	Mt 298 *	2039	6842

F = FAO estimate | M = Data not available | T = Trend calculation | * = Unofficial figure | Mt = Metric Ton

See also: [FAO Country Profiles for Namibia](#)

Select [Country](#), [Item](#), [Element](#) and [Year](#) to define your query

[Help](#)

Mongolia	Wafers	Imports - Qty	2002
Montserrat	Walnuts	Imports - Val	2001
Morocco	Walnuts Shelled	Exports - Qty	2000
Mozambique	Watermelons	Exports - Val	1999
Myanmar	Waters,Ice, etc.		1998
Namibia	Waxes Veg 431.43		1997
Nauru	Wheat		1996
NEAR EAST+	WHEAT+FLOUR,WHEAT EQUIV.+		1995

Submit To Database

Reset

© FAO 2004

Output :
Table : X-axis Y-axis

Aggregate :
Calculate :

Options
 FAO DataSymbols
 Codes
 FAO Yearbook Country Sort Order

[Symbols and Abbreviations](#) [Faostat Citation](#)

Load Query Definition

Save Query Definition

Go To Macro Panel

Return to | [FAOSTAT Home](#)



10 Records ([Symbols and Abbreviations](#)) © FAO 2004

<i>Wheat</i> <i>Imports - Qty (Mt)</i>	Year				
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Namibia	94,498	90,636	40,800	14,493	30,599

<i>Wheat</i> <i>Imports - Val (1000\$)</i>	Year				
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Namibia	14,235	8,918	5,337	1,735	4,655

[Faostat Citation](#)

Click on the file to download it as .CSV

(If you configure your browser to associate the file type text/comma-separated-values with your spreadsheet software, then it will be started automatically when you download the file.)

[CSV File](#)

SELECT [Reporter Country](#) , Partner Country, Item, Element and Years to define your query

[Help](#)

Malta	Western Sahara	Wafers	Imports-qty	2003
Martinique	wildcard	Walnuts	Imports-val	2002
Mauritius	WORLD+	Walnuts Shelled	Exports-qty	2001
Mexico	WORLD>	Watermelons	Exports-val	2000
Moldova, Republic of	Yemen	Waters,Ice, etc.	Re-exports-qty	1999
Mongolia	Yemen Arab Republic	Waxes Veg 431.43	Re-exports-val	1998
Morocco	Yemen, Democratic	Wheat	Exp+Re-exp-qty	1997
Namibia	Yugoslavia SFR	Wheat Fermented Beverage	Exp+Re-exp-val	1996

Rep table ▾

Submit To Database

Reset

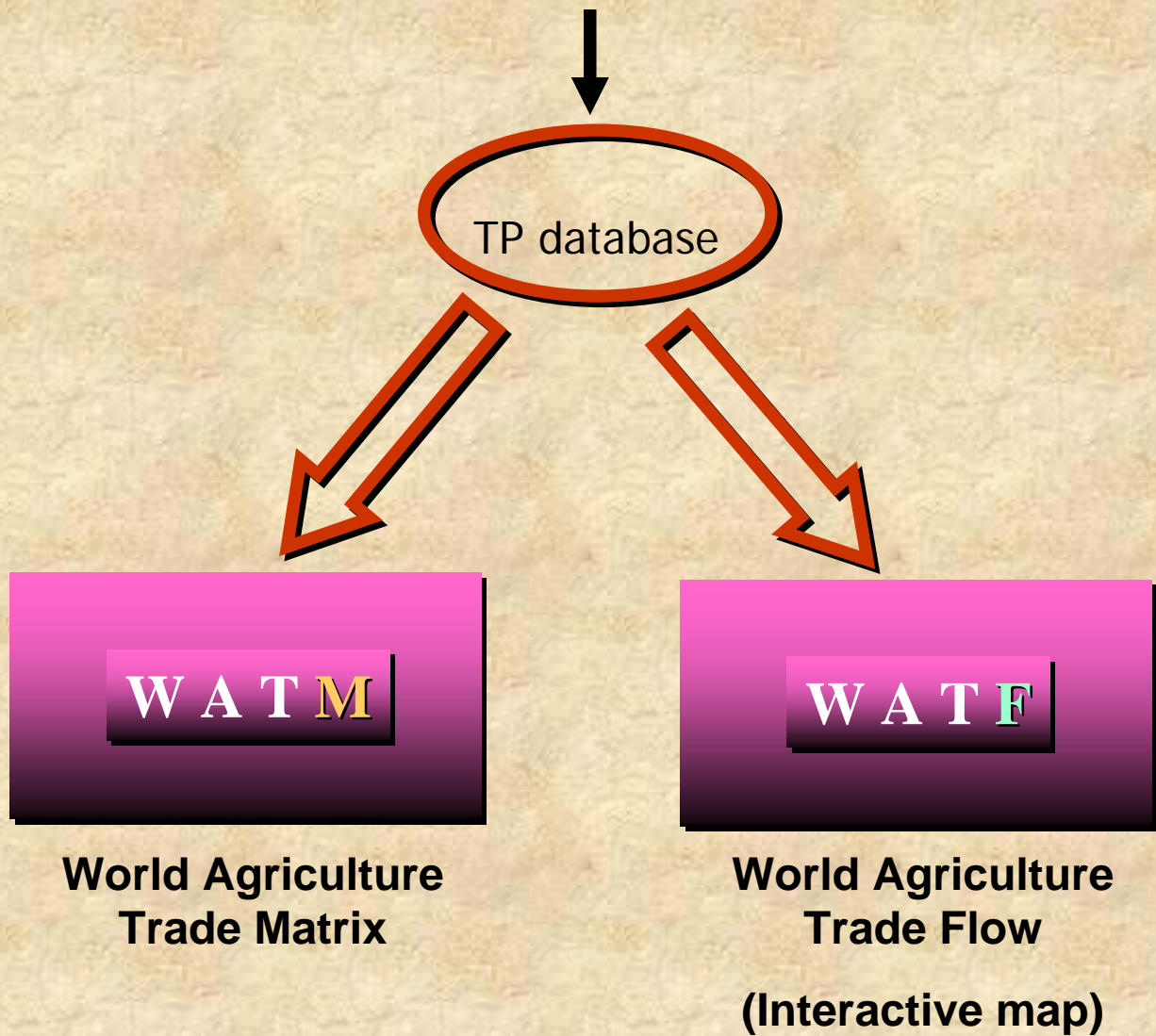
[© Copyright FAO](#)

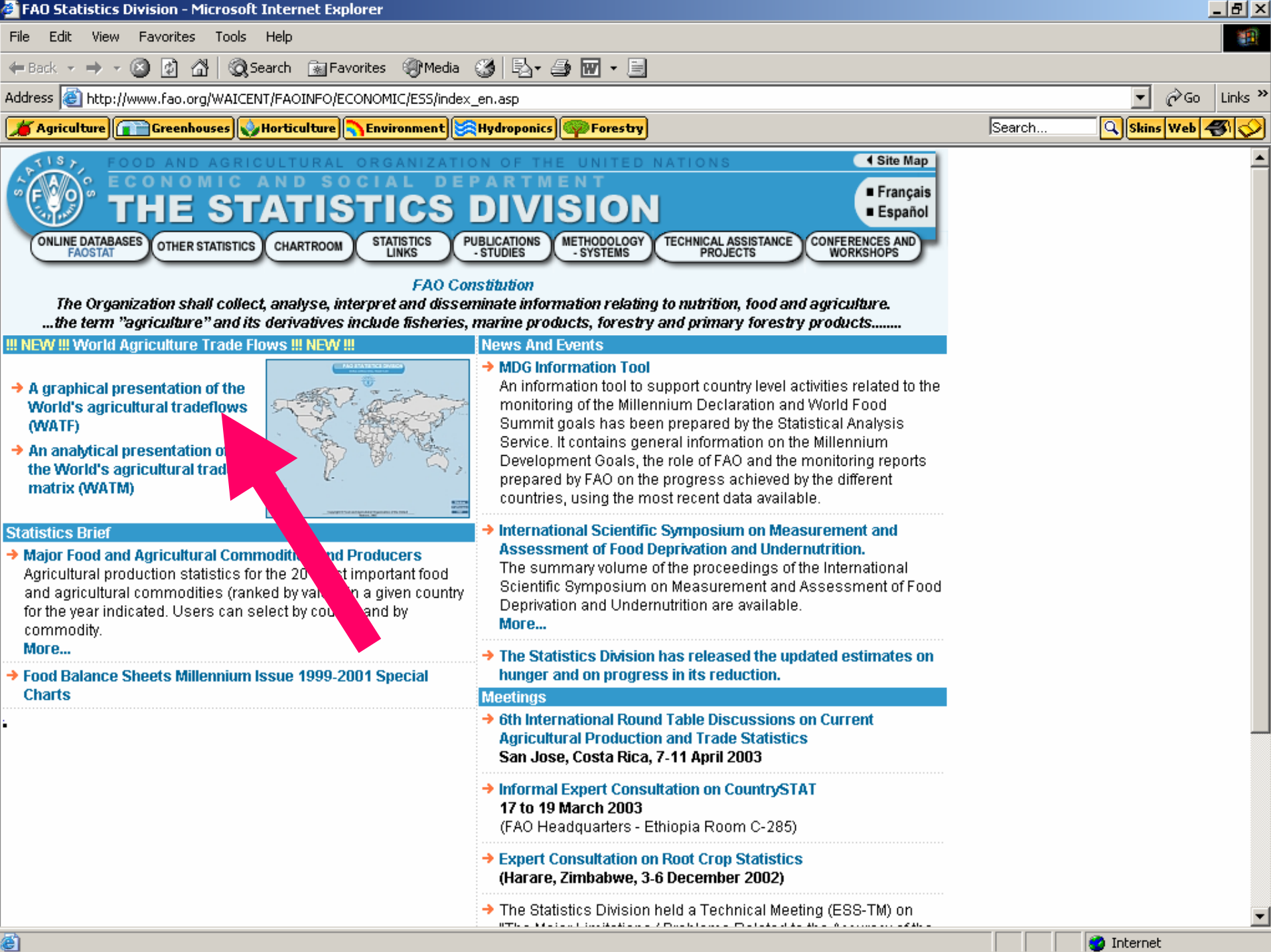
Warning : While every effort has been made to maximize the coverage, aggregates could be incomplete since not all countries may be covered.

[Return to Home Page](#)

2002				
<i>IMPORTER (reporting)</i>		Wheat		
	<i>EXPORTER (partner)</i>	<i>Quantity (Mt)</i>	<i>Value (1000 US\$)</i>	<i>Unit Value</i>
Namibia				
	Argentina	8,400	936	111
	France	11,700	1,338	114
	Germany	110	134	1,218
	South Africa	629	234	372
	United States of America	9,760	1,939	199
	TOTAL	30,599	4,581	150
2001				
<i>IMPORTER (reporting)</i>		Wheat		
	<i>EXPORTER (partner)</i>	<i>Quantity (Mt)</i>	<i>Value (1000 US\$)</i>	<i>Unit Value</i>
Namibia				
	France	8,295	878	106
	South Africa	210	42	200
	United States of America	5,987	815	136
	TOTAL	14,492	1,735	120
2000				
<i>IMPORTER (reporting)</i>		Wheat		
	<i>EXPORTER (partner)</i>	<i>Quantity (Mt)</i>	<i>Value (1000 US\$)</i>	<i>Unit Value</i>
Namibia				
	Canada	6,600	904	137
	France	15,430	1,525	99
	South Africa	7	16	2,286
	Spain	86	30	349
	United States of America	18,676	2,863	153
	TOTAL	40,799	5,338	131

Click on the file to download it as .CSV





THE STATISTICS DIVISION

- ONLINE DATABASES FAOSTAT
- OTHER STATISTICS
- CHARTROOM
- STATISTICS LINKS
- PUBLICATIONS - STUDIES
- METHODOLOGY - SYSTEMS
- TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS
- CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

FAO Constitution

The Organization shall collect, analyse, interpret and disseminate information relating to nutrition, food and agriculture. ...the term "agriculture" and its derivatives include fisheries, marine products, forestry and primary forestry products.....

!!! NEW !!! World Agriculture Trade Flows !!! NEW !!!

- A graphical presentation of the World's agricultural trade flows (WATF)
- An analytical presentation of the World's agricultural trade matrix (WATM)



News And Events

- **MDG Information Tool**
An information tool to support country level activities related to the monitoring of the Millennium Declaration and World Food Summit goals has been prepared by the Statistical Analysis Service. It contains general information on the Millennium Development Goals, the role of FAO and the monitoring reports prepared by FAO on the progress achieved by the different countries, using the most recent data available.
- **International Scientific Symposium on Measurement and Assessment of Food Deprivation and Undernutrition.**
The summary volume of the proceedings of the International Scientific Symposium on Measurement and Assessment of Food Deprivation and Undernutrition are available.
[More...](#)
- **The Statistics Division has released the updated estimates on hunger and on progress in its reduction.**

Statistics Brief

- **Major Food and Agricultural Commodities and Producers**
Agricultural production statistics for the 20 most important food and agricultural commodities (ranked by value on a given country for the year indicated. Users can select by country and by commodity.
[More...](#)
- **Food Balance Sheets Millennium Issue 1999-2001 Special Charts**

Meetings

- **6th International Round Table Discussions on Current Agricultural Production and Trade Statistics**
San Jose, Costa Rica, 7-11 April 2003
- **Informal Expert Consultation on CountrySTAT**
17 to 19 March 2003
(FAO Headquarters - Ethiopia Room C-285)
- **Expert Consultation on Root Crop Statistics**
(Harare, Zimbabwe, 3-6 December 2002)
- The Statistics Division held a Technical Meeting (ESS-TM) on "The Major Limitations / Problems Related to the Accuracy of the

The Statistics Division of F.A.O. receives trade data, on an annual basis, from many countries and in different formats (such as electronic media, publications, questionnaires)

Increasingly over the last decade, countries are providing their detailed trade data through electronic media such as CD-ROMs, e-mail files, FTP transfers.

Data exchange with other organizations, specifically with UNSD, as well as EUROSTAT and OECD, has also contributed substantially to improving our world coverage of trade flows.

These detailed data in electronic format allow us to compile trade by origin and destination, by commodity, in quantity and value, in a matrix format.

Hardcopy data, on the other hand, are entered by commodity totals only (without trading partner detail).



Agricultural trade data are stored by the Statistics Division of F.A.O. in two major databases:

- one database contains data by country (+ geographic and economic aggregates) per commodity and commodity aggregates (e.g. South African total exports of sugar as one figure)

Country:	Commodity:	Element:	Year: 2001
South Africa	Sugar (Centrifugal, Raw)	Export Quantity (MT)	1,235,193
South Africa	Sugar (Centrifugal, Raw)	Export Value (1000 US\$)	231,191

These data are disseminated through the FAOSTAT website

- the other database contains the breakdown of the commodity total of a country by trading partner detail (e.g. South African exports of sugar to Turkey in a given year)

Commodity: Sugar (centrifugal, raw)		REPORTER EXPORTS								
Year: 2001		PARTNER:								
REPORT_AREA	Data	Angola	Bulgaria	Comoros	Egypt	Iran, Islamic	Japan	Kenya	Korea, Repul	Madagascar
South Africa	QUANTITY (MT)	280	25,000	2,967	55,000	133,500	202,000	16,502	215,000	5,361
	VALUE (1000 US\$)	96	4,911	668	10,153	23,886	37,126	4,109	41,512	1,348

These data are presently available on CD-ROMs (beta version) and will shortly be available on-line on the Statistics Division Homepage



FAOSTAT

Country:	Commodity:	Element:	Year: 2001
South Africa	Sugar (Centrifugal, Raw)	Export Quantity (MT)	1,235,193
South Africa	Sugar (Centrifugal, Raw)	Export Value (1000 US\$)	231,191

The totals, of both quantity and value, at the end of the row are equal to the totals shown in FAOSTAT

TRADE MATRIX

Commodity: Sugar (centrifugal, raw)		REPORTER EXPORTS								
Year: 2001		PARTNER:								
REPORT_AREA	Data	Angola	Bulgaria	Comoros	Egypt	Iran, Islamic	Japan	Kenya	Korea, Repul	Madagascar
South Africa	QUANTITY (MT)	280	25,000	2,967	55,000	133,500	202,000	16,502	215,000	5,361
	VALUE (1000 US\$)	96	4,911	668	10,153	23,886	37,126	4,109	41,512	1,348



- the FAOSTAT trade data include official and unofficial figures (from all hardcopy/electronic sources) in addition to estimates (but by country/commodity totals only)
- the TRADE MATRIX data include only official electronic data as reported by each country (but with detailed commodity/trading partner breakdown).

So, if USA has not provided us with their electronic file for the year 2001, USA data will not be available in the TRADE MATRIX for that year - whereas USA data (from hardcopy or other sources) will appear in the FAOSTAT database.

Therefore, it is essential to be aware that continental and world totals in the TRADE MATRIX could be partial in that they reflect only the reporting country data coverage available in that given year.

The TRADE MATRIX database, however, feeds the FAOSTAT cells by providing the official country/commodity totals, in addition to being quite an **accurate estimation tool** for filling empty FAOSTAT cells (by using “mirror data” as we shall see later)

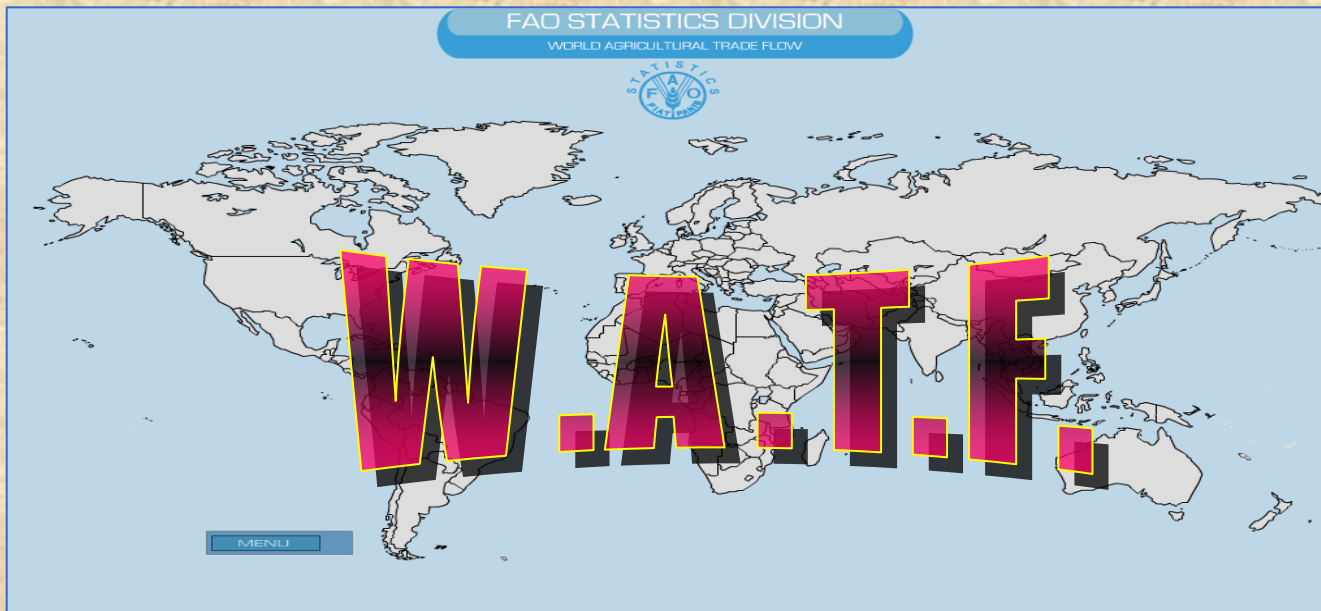


W.A.T.M.

W.A.T.M.

Having viewed and ranked the African countries based on their agricultural trade totals, let us now use the **World Agricultural Trade Matrix** to extract detailed data, by quantity and value, which will enable us to view the trading partner detail of the African countries.





Having viewed the African agricultural trade data from FAOSTAT,
and extracted the trade matrix detail using WATM,
let us now use the
World Agricultural Trade Flow
to view the matrix data graphically.

WATF is available on the Statistics Division Homepage as well as on CD-ROM.





MENU

Window

FullScreen

EXIT

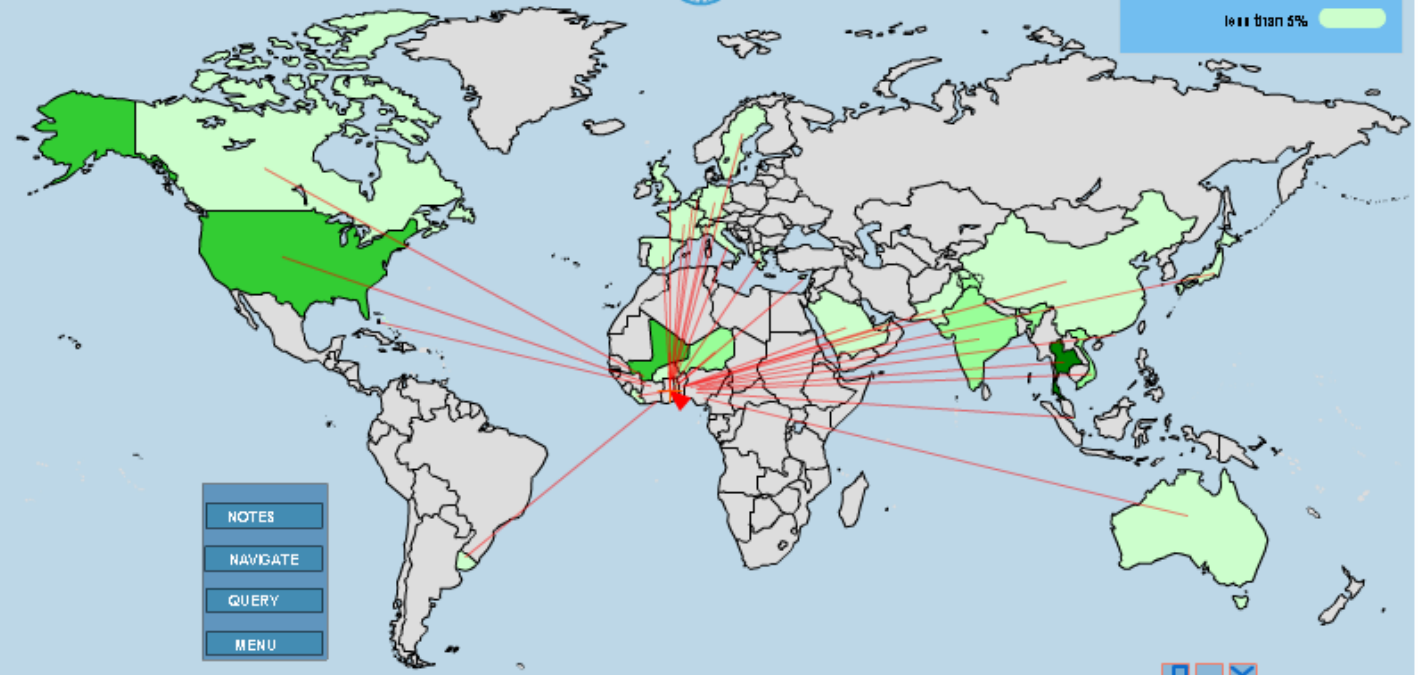
FAO STATISTICS DIVISION

WORLD AGRICULTURAL TRADE FLOW



Share in Import

- more than 25%
- between 11% and 25%
- between 5% and 10%
- less than 5%



- NOTES
- NAVIGATE
- QUERY
- MENU

Import / Export Discrepancies in reporting:

There are a number of reasons which may, in part, explain these discrepancies:

- **Time lag:** with minor exceptions, the trade data are on an annual basis. So, if an export reported in December of a given year reaches destination in January, the import will be reported in the following year.
- **Commodity misclassification:** there could be misclassification of the product between the exporter and importer. For example, South Africa reports the export product as “Lemons” (HS code 0805.50), while the importer, Zimbabwe, reports the same product as “Citrus Fruit, other” (HS code 0805.90). Commodity misclassification may be purposely done for **customs tax avoidance**; e.g. the import duty on “wheat flour” could be less than that on “maize flour”.
- **Trade reporting system:** some countries report data on “General Trade” basis (all imports and exports + re-exports, including Free-Zones), while others report on “Special Trade” basis (imports for domestic consumption only and ‘nationalised’ exports). For example, Cote d’Ivoire (General Trade) reports Banana export to the Netherlands (Special Trade); but, since these bananas will reside temporarily in a free-zone warehouse in Rotterdam to be re-exported to Sweden, the Netherlands will not report this Banana import – Sweden will.



Import / Export Discrepancies in reporting:

- **Country of Origin/Destination:** confusion could arise regarding the original exporter and the final importer. For example, Belgium reports an export to Botswana (country of final destination). The goods, however, will transit through South Africa. Botswana might report the import as originating from South Africa.
- **Data Confidentiality:** some countries will not report the trade quantities and/or values in certain products for reasons of confidentiality. Or, the partner country detail will not be provided and indicated as "Unspecified". Confidentiality can arise due to policy issues, trade monopolies, circumventing trade embargoes, etc.
- **Food aid:** a country may report only its commercial imports of a certain commodity and exclude the "Food aid" transshipments. We, however, include food aid data in the FAOSTAT trade figures wherever available information indicate that such transshipments were not included in the official detailed data.
- **Loss or damage:** exported quantities could get destroyed or lost en route due to accidents, weather conditions, etc.



Import / Export Discrepancies in reporting:

So, While the Statistics Division does adjust/modify some official trade figures where there are evident inconsistencies (such as clear data entry errors, out-of-trend unit value variations, unreported Food Aid, etc.), no overall adjustments are made to purposely match reported imports with corresponding reported exports.

The TRADE MATRIX data are, therefore, un-reconciled.

In the past, attempts have been made at reconciling the data using various methodologies, but it was evident that the final modified figures were too 'cosmetic' and deviated notably from reality.

Some of the reconciliation criteria taken into consideration in the past included taking importer declarations for specific commodities as the 'correct' figures; while for other commodities, the exporter figures were considered as 'correct'.

Another criteria was to keep the dollar values and base the quantities on either the exporter or importer unit-value calculations.



The perspectives of the trade statistics in FAO

- 1. To harmonize the national trade methodology with the international concepts, definitions and classifications;**
- 2. To increase the availability of the trade data in electronic format according to the standard requests;**
- 3. To increase the quality of the trade statistics at the national level and implicit the quality of the FAO trade databases;**
- 4. To improve the statistical techniques related with the imputation/estimation of the missing data;**
- 5. To create more flexible system for disseminating the external trade statistics and to adopt the adequate methods related with the trade data confidentiality;**



The perspectives of the trade statistics in FAO

- 6. To extend the decentralization of the trade data collection and data processing ; the experience accumulated during the current AOAD project should be used for other similar activities;**
- 7. To integrate the trade data processing system into the new FAOSTAT 2 system;**
- 8. To extent the cooperation and the collaboration with the national trade data producers and with other international organizations on trade statistics;**
- 9. To create an interactive system of the international trade offices in order to implement a “real-time” trade data exchange and to reduce as much as possible the duplication of the work;**
- 10. To create a network of the national and international trade statisticians and to use the internet facilities in order to have a permanent contact;**

