



Updates on ASEAN SITS

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Summary of Progress


- The quality of SITS compilation has been improved in compliance with international concepts and procedures and use of new data sources.
- ASEAN Member States have been more committed to submitting SITS regularly to ASEANstats.

However, data are not yet fully comparable and still vary in coverage and quality.



Summary of Progress

- Harmonized SITS for individual countries are not yet disseminated, partly owing to confidentiality obligations and concerns on data quality.
- The first SITS publication was released in November 2012 containing aggregated data on Trade in Services.
- The TFSITS was converted into the WGSITS. WGSITS ToR was adopted at the 3rd Session of the ACSS Committee




Overall, the conception of statistical compilation, adherence to international standards, application of appropriate data collection and processing methods, and working with other agencies has greatly improved - talking about the introduction of a statistics culture.

However, SITS still have a long way to go in most of the countries, which are at different stages of development.



On going Activities

- The draft ACSS Policies and Guidelines on Data Sharing, Confidentiality and Dissemination is in the process of agreement that will allow wider dissemination of ASEAN statistics. Public data disclosure is still restricted, limiting usefulness.

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- With the Code of Practice adopted by the ACSS Committee in 2012, the ASEAN Secretariat and the AMS have given themselves a tool to monitor the quality of ASEAN statistics. Assessment measures on data quality are to be developed by the respective Working Groups.




Status of Third Round Data Collection

- 3 AMSs have shifted to BPM6
- 2 AMSs still to submit 2012 data
- 7 AMSs are able to provide 11 Service Headings
- 5 AMSs have provided partner country breakdown, 1 has published.



Remaining Challenges


- Public data disclosure is still restricted, limiting usefulness. For instance, dissemination of harmonized SITS on per country level is not yet implemented, partly owing to confidentiality obligations and concerns on data quality.
- In some countries it has not been possible to compile the basic data requirements from ASEANstats and operationalize new concepts and procedures due to scarcity of resources and technical capability

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- Budget constraints and staff number limitation, while being required to provide more statistical data. To sustain improvements in these areas, continued support is needed, especially for Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV).



Next steps....

- In several countries, the new work on the SITS involved laying new plans for data collection. These included strengthening or making better use of the existing International Transactions Reporting System (ITRS) or other reporting systems, planning or even undertaking new surveys as well as utilizing administrative sources.

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- Data submission through data transmission tool.
 - Updating of Metadata.
 - 2013 SITS Publication



Thank you for your attention...