

UNSD WORKSHOP ON
INTERNATIONAL
MERCHANDISE TRADE
STATISTICS IN ADDIS ABABA
ETHIOPIA, 12-16 NOVEMBER 2007

ZIMBABWE
COUNTRY PRESENTATION

Institutional Arrangements

- In data collection
- Cooperation between the National Statistical Office (NSO) and
 1. Customs
 2. Other Agencies

1.1 Customs (ZIMRA)

i) Cooperation With Customs

A Service Level Agreement (SL Agreement) was signed between NSO & Customs. That mandates provision of timely data and ensure good relationship between the two institutions.

1.1 Customs (ZIMRA)

ii) Frequency, Detail & Completeness

The data is timely provided through e-mail. i.e. We receive data of previous month within 15 days of the current month.

All mandatory fields are usually provided for.
The completeness of the data has some short comings. e.g. The quantity (supplementary unit) is sometimes not entered.

iii) Validation Checks

The built in validation checks in the EUROTRACE system are inadequately being used by NSO, due to lack of complete knowledge of what the system can and cannot do.

1.1 Customs (ZIMRA)

iv) Follow-up

There is effective communication between the two parties on follow-ups of data, acknowledgement of receiving it and clarification of questions that may arise from NSO.

v) Most Important Problems

We have not yet encountered any major problem with the data from customs

1.2 Customs (Postal Packages)

i) Cooperation Between Customs & ZIMPOST

We are not aware of any memorandum of understanding signed between the two.

We get the data through customs in Post Offices. Hard copies are posted directly to us or we collect them at the Central Sorting Office.

1.2 Customs (Postal Packages)

- ii) Frequency, Detail and Completeness
Monthly data is provided, though usually 3 months behind.

The data is in the desired format because it is manually entered into the system by the NSO staff.

1.2 Customs (Postal Packages)

- iii) Follow-up
Follow-ups are done using telephone and where necessary by physical presence/visits.
- iv) Allocation to Partners
Postal packages are not allocated to partners the country code is coded as XP/XU.

1.2 Customs (Postal Packages)

- v) Valuation
Customs adhere to recommended World Trade Organization's procedures (i.e. imports cif and exports fob)
- vi) Inclusion in Trade Statistics
They are included in trade statistics.

2. Other Agency (ZESA)

- i) Cooperation With ZESA
There is no memorandum of understanding hence the Census and Statistics act applies.
- ii) Frequency Detail and Completeness
Data is provided monthly.
- iii) Follow-up
We receive the data through e-mail. Follow-ups are done through the same facility. When necessary the telephone is used.

2. Other Agency (ZESA)

- iv) Allocation to Partners
Electricity trading partners are captured.
- v) Valuation
We take it as given by ZESA
- vi) Inclusion in Trade Statistics
Electricity is included in trade statistics

END