



COMPILATION OF INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS (IMTS) IN BOTSWANA (with ref to IMTS 2010)

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Outline

- ❖ Introduction
 - ❖ Practice
 - ❖ Challenges
 - ❖ Conclusion
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❖ Introduction

Purpose of the presentation

✓ To share Botswana's practice in IMTS with reference to IMTS 2010 Concepts & Definitions, specifically looking at;

- Current Practice
- Challenges
- Conclusion



Current Practice

Scope, Time of Recording & Trade Type

- ✓ Currently only customs data used for compilation of IMTS
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- No threshold applied as a result all goods that cross the border are recorded
 - Goods recorded as they cross the border and IMTS compiled basing on this time of recording
 - Botswana practices General Trade Type and IMTS can also be availed according to Special Trade Type if necessary



➤ **Commodity Classification & Quantity Measurement**

- ✓ Commodities classified by HS 2012 as from January 2012
- ✓ Data compiled by HS and disseminated by HS, SITC and BEC revisions 4
- ✓ Quantity Measurements used are the ones recommended by World Customs Organization

➤ Valuation



Valuation is as per UNSD guidelines

- Imports are valued Cash Insurance and Freight (CIF)
- Exports are valued Free On Board (FOB)

➤ Partner Country



Currently Botswana uses only

- Country of origin for imports
- Country of last known destination for exports



- New Data Fields

- Mode of Transport

- ✓ Not yet implemented the recommendation in IMTS2010.

- Data compilation Strategies

- Institutional Arrangements

- ✓ Only Customs records used for compilation of IMTS

➤ Integrating Trade & Business Statistics

- Note yet using none Customs data to supplement Customs records, as a result trade statistics not yet integrated with business statistics.

➤ Data Quality & Metadata

- Though no written Data quality Reports, the dimensions of data quality; timeliness, methodological soundness and others are generally observed

➤ Quality & Metadata Continued

- Metadata long developed under GDDS project & can be found on IMF website

➤ Dissemination

- Dissemination through three main reports;
 - ✓ Monthly Digest; released within eight weeks after reference period
 - ✓ Quarterly Digest; released 90 days after reference period
 - ✓ Annual Report; released six months after reference period

➤ Dissemination Continued

- The three reports posted on the Statistics Botswana website (www.cso.gov.bw)
- Data also availed to users in various formats according to their specific requests
- Main users include government ministries, parastatal organizations, international organizations and the public at large

➤ Challenges

- Transformation from CSO to Statistics Botswana (April 2012) still having teething problems as staff was down sized from eight to three and it is now difficult to cope with report production and other associated issues
- Officers who were involved in data editing and management of the database offered employment in other section of Statistics Botswana



➤ Challenges Continued

- None of Statistics Botswana Current IT staff familiar with Eurotrace
- Poor quality of quantity data
- Misclassification of commodities
- Under reporting of values so as to pay low duties
- Smuggling of goods to evade paying taxes

❖ Conclusion

- Botswana now able to compile timely & comparable IMTS as a result of integrating with the world through attending regional & international workshops
- Though transformation from CSO to Statistics Botswana still having teething problems, we hope that as soon as recruitment gets completed it will get better.

Thank you!!