

African Informal Cross Border Merchandise Trade Questionnaire

African Informal Trade Questionnaire

This questionnaire is a supplement to main questionnaire on International Merchandise Trade Statistics compilation practices which refers to the internationally endorsed recommendations of International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) contained in the IMTS 2010, Concepts and Definitions, manual (see <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/methodology%20IMTS.htm>).

The purpose of the survey on informal trade is to obtain existing practices and challenges in the compilation and integration of informal cross border survey within the broad framework of IMTS. The result of the survey is used as an input to the development of African methodology on informal cross border merchandise trade.

The questionnaire is expected to be completed by the institute responsible for the compilation and dissemination of the international merchandise trade statistics (usually the National Statistical Office) in close consultation with the Customs Administration (as the main data provider). Besides IMTS 2010, you are also advised to consult the IMTS 2010, Compilers Manual (available on the same web page) to better understand the terms used in this questionnaire.

***1. Which agency do you work for?**

(Your agency is responsible for the compilation and dissemination of international merchandise trade statistics)

- National statistical office
- Customs administration
- Central bank
- Ministry
- Other agency

If other, please explain

***2. Country**

Country

Select country

***3. Date (DD/MM/YYYY)**

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***4. Do you compile statistics on informal cross border merchandise trade (or informal trade), as additional source for IMTS or BOP/NA?**

Yes

No

Please explain, if necessary

If your office does NOT compile informal trade, then jump to question 20:

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Questions 5-19 are for those that currently compile or has compiled informal trade.

5. What are estimated shares of informal trade in total exports/imports?

Imports (% of total)

Exports (% of total)

6. What method do you use to compile the flow of informal trade?

- Econometric / Data modelling
- Survey
- Combination of survey and econometric modelling

Other (please specify)

7. If you estimate informal cross border trade using econometric / data modelling, please briefly describe the methodology and level of detail.

8. If you use a survey, what is the frequency of the survey?

- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Semi-annual
- Annual
- Irregular

Other (please specify)

9. What is the date or period of your last survey?

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10. Who are involved in the execution of the informal trade survey?

- National Statistical Office
- Customs Administration
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Trade
- Central Bank
- Police / Immigration
- Local municipality

Other (please specify)

11. Do you record the following trade information on survey form?

- Border crossing
- Commodity Code / Description
- Flow of trade
- Country of Origin, Consignment or Destination
- Residency of the transporter
- Extended description of mode of transport (walking, biking, small motorized, etc.)
- Value
- Quantity and its unit

Other (please specify)

12. Do you record the following trader information on survey form?

- Categories of travelers (e.g., non-resident worker or visitor)
- Intention of end use (e.g., consumption or resell)
- Frequency of trade
- Reasons of cross-border trade

Other (please specify)

13. Do you integrate the data into system used in the compilation of IMTS (such as Eurotrace)?

- Yes
- No

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14. If yes, please describe your procedure of data preparation before such integration (such as assigning the right code or grossing up the survey result, etc.)

15. Do you regularly publish separate publication (other than IMTS publication) on the result of survey on informal trade?

- Yes
 No

If yes, please provide the name of the publication and web address

16. What is the frequency of the publication?

- Monthly
 Quarterly
 Semi-Annual
 Annual

Other (please specify)

17. In addition to IMTS, are the data on the informal trade being used in the compilation of BOP?

- Yes
 No

Other (please specify)

18. In addition to IMTS, are the data on the informal trade being used in the compilation of NA?

- Yes
 No

Other (please specify)

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***19. Do you need further technical assistance to improve existing compilation of statistics on informal trade?**

Yes

No

If yes, please elaborate kind of assistance

Skip question 20 and 21, and continue with question 22:

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Questions 20-21 are for those that never compile informal trade.

20. Does informal trade constitute significant share of total trade in your country?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

***21. Do you need technical assistance to start the compilation of statistics on the informal trade?**

- Yes
- No

If yes, please elaborate kind of assistance

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General questions

***22. Do you or your office wish to participate in African technical committee responsible for the development of methodology on informal cross border merchandise trade?**

Yes

No

23. In case you would like to highlight other related issues and information, please provide details: