National Bureau of Statistics

Republic of Seychelles

Regional Workshop on International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS), Johannesburg, South Africa.

24-28 June 2019.

SEYCHELLES.

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Background

- Seychelles is a small granitic island in the Indian Ocean with a population of 97,199 inhabitants at 31st December 2018.
- Tourism is the main service base economy sector, whereby arrival for 2018 were 361,844 and from Jan to May 2019 was 161,347.

Processing of trade data

- The Seychelles National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) is responsible for the dissemination of the International Merchandise Trade Statistics.
- **Data Sources:** Customs Records
- Merchandise trade data is generated from the ASYCUDA World system from the Customs Department of the Seychelles Revenue Commission (SRC).
- The Department of Information Communication and Technology (DICT) provides the data electronically to the NBS on a monthly basis.
- The data is received in text format and is then uploaded in Excel to facilitate checking, analysis and compilation of statistical tables.

Other direct sources

Importers and Exporters of products of significance:

- Imports of fish and exports of canned tuna (obtained directly from the cannery Indian Ocean Tuna, IOT).

- Petroleum imports and re-exports (obtained from the Seychelles Petroleum Company, SEYPEC).

Compilation / Dissemination

Compilation:

- To compile our IMTS, we use Microsoft Access, SQL Server and Eurotrace.
- The General Trade System is used for the compilation of both Import and Export Statistics.
- We also compile Export and Import Price Indices (XMPI).
- **Dissemination:**
- The National Bureau Of Statistics has its own data dissemination calendar, and we make sure that we deliver on a timely basis, which is 12 weeks after the reference period for our Quarterly Bulletins.
- Quarterly Bulletins and monthly trade (via online access).
- Our XMPI is published on a quarterly basis (via online access)
- Also on data request by members of the public. (via online access and hard copy).

Problems / Solutions

Data quality issues:

- Misclassification of Hs Code, Custom Procedure Code and quantity.
- Potential duplication of entries detected in exports.
- **Solutions:**
- We have access to Asycuda World online system which enables us to view and do correction on our data.
- We have institutional arrangements with Custom and Central Bank of Seychelles.

Recommendations

- Customs and NBS should jointly organize regular training sessions with the agents and brokers to educate them on the need to record correct codes, units of quantity, country of origin, when capturing the data

- Customs should introduce penalties for non-compliance.

THANK YOU