Training Workshop
IMTS Compilers Manual
(Abuja, 30 August–2 September 2005)

GHANA-ONS
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Mandate of the Statistical Office

- Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) was established by law in 1985.
- Before then, was known as Central Bureau of Statistics, a department under the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning.
- GSS mandated as sole government agency to conduct censuses and surveys to collect, compile, analyze and publish statistics in the country.
- Also to compile data from administrative records and assemble them for publication.
- Also coordinate all statistics activities in the country.
- Advices government on all issues relating to statistics.
GSS accomplishes this through Divisions and Sections

- Industrial and Trade Statistics Division
- Trade Statistics Section
Data sources and format for declarations

- The main source of data is the customs declarations

- Declarations are obtained in both electronic format and paper declarations; electronic format from ASYCUDA and paper for overland entry/exit points

- ASYCUDA replaced by Ghana Community Network (GCNet) with the airport connected in December 2002 and the seaports in July 2003.

- Institutions depending on customs data have been linked to the GCNet to make it possible to download data online. This is done through a software known as Cognos Impromptu

- Declarations by agents are also now possible online using a front-end software (FES)
Type of trade system

- Ghana has been using the General Trade System since 2000. This was based on the recommendations in the UN Manual on Merchandise Trade

- Before then, the Special Trade System was in use

- Movement of goods between warehouses and between free zones are not published
Checks on data from customs

- The declarations are first loaded into a spreadsheet to ensure that all the required fields have been provided.

- Any errors that can easily be corrected are effected before data transfer.

- In the case of blank fields this is brought to the attention of customs for correction.

- The blanks mostly encountered are those for the supplementary unit.
Other data sources are:

- Data from the import/export of electrical energy from the Volta River Authority
- Data on crude oil imports from the oil refinery
- Export data on non-traditional commodities and overland exports from the Ministry of Trade and Industry
- Introduction of the Ghana Community Network (GCNet) makes it possible for electronic submission of declarations
Time schedule for data processing

- Data obtained from CEPS under ASYCUDA with a time lag of about three months. Data processed immediately after receiving from customs.

- Data extraction from the different ports by a team from the headquarters caused the delays.

- Institutions connected to GCNet can download data online, but there are a few data problems that a committee has been set up to resolve.
Discussion with other agencies before publication

- There are no formal discussions with other agencies before publication
- The declarations, as captured by customs is difficult to verify from other sources
- The central bank holds consultations with the Statistical Office and Ministry of Trade when data delays and the bank has to prepare estimates for the balance of payments
- A national committee on trade statistics is to review current methodologies for compilation and make recommendations for a common approach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Imports (Cedis)</th>
<th>Exports (Cedis)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>8,700,126,736,157</td>
<td>4,724,285,245,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>15,787,697,570,863</td>
<td>8,788,619,033,412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>22,401,255,639,175</td>
<td>12,302,006,469,459</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>24,051,179,809,129</td>
<td>13,766,164,392,431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>27,867,553,739,418</td>
<td>20,205,046,742,483</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Data for 2002 excludes transactions through the Airport for November and December.
Main import commodities and import partners

- Main import commodities are:
  ✓ Crude petroleum oils
  ✓ Spelt common wheat/durum wheat
  ✓ Rice
  ✓ Tobacco
  ✓ Used vehicles
  ✓ Electrical energy
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- Main import partners
  - Nigeria
  - United Kingdom
  - Spain
  - USA
  - Belgium
  - Cote D’Ivoire
Main export commodities and export partners

Main export commodities are

- Gold
- Cocoa beans
- Cocoa paste
- Veneer sheets
- Sawn wood/Parts of furniture
- Aluminium Alloys
- Electrical energy
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Main export partners are

- Switzerland
- South Africa
- United Kingdom
- Netherlands
- USA
- China
- Japan
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION