

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

GHANA-ONS



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

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

Ghana's imports and exports (1999-2003)

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

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



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

- 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

- Main export partners are
 - ✓ Switzerland
 - ✓ South Africa
 - ✓ United Kingdom
 - ✓ Netherlands
 - ✓ USA
 - ✓ China
 - ✓ Japan



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION