

Capacity-building modules of the DMFAS Programme



PRODUCTION OF A STATISTICAL BULLETIN ON DEBT

Background

Debt managers responsible for the production of a statistical bulletin on debt or for meeting statutory debt data dissemination requirements and officials involved in strategy formulation may need training, guidance and further awareness of the best practices in the different types of statistical reports available.

To this end, the DMFAS Programme offers a comprehensive and newly revised capacity-building module focused on the production of a statistical bulletin on debt. It delivers this module to its client countries in the form of an interactive workshop during which numerous statistical tables compiled by the Programme are carefully reviewed, analysed and compared.

The statistical tables represent a sample of tables as well as metadata selected from major international publications as well as other tables that have been found useful in client countries. They are intended to stimulate thought and discussion on the concepts, aggregates and classifications used, and to consider the relevance for the countries and/or institutions.

Participants are given the tools and actively encouraged to use them to produce other tables not on the list and which they deem relevant. The workshop ensures that the final set of tables produced are consistent with best practice and international guidelines.

This module aims in particular to improve the capacity of the national debt office in the production of a statistical bulletin on debt in accordance with the latest international guidelines.

Capacity-building activities implemented by the DMFAS Programme

- Assessing the existing capacity of the government institution (including the institutional environment, policy instruments and organizational arrangements) and establishing goals concerning the capacity to be developed
- Providing training and follow-up activities appropriate to the institution
- Providing assistance and advisory services

Objectives of the module

With this capacity-building module, your institution will be able to:

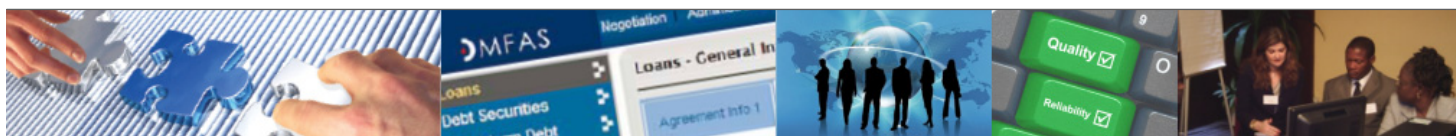
- Identify the main issues relating to the production of a statistical bulletin on debt
- Determine the implications of the latest guidelines on the compilation and dissemination of international debt statistics
- Develop a draft proposal for the production or refinement of a statistical bulletin on debt

Your institution will benefit from the following:

- Strengthened awareness of international guidelines
- A draft proposal for the introduction or enhancement of statistical bulletins on debt including:
 - Tables to be used as well as their coverage
 - Sources, definitions and methodology
 - Publications calendar
 - Frequency and timeliness of the publication
 - Resources required
- A proposed plan for the implementation of the statistical bulletin on debt
- Implementation of the plan
- Continued support by the DMFAS Programme to strengthen capacity in the production of sustainable statistical bulletins on debt

Targeted audience

- Debt managers responsible for the production of debt statistics, as they would be directly involved in the production of statistical bulletins on debt.
- Debt officers with some familiarity of the use of DMFAS for reporting purposes, as they may be required to support the production of statistical bulletins on debt.
- A broader community of users of debt statistics, such as government and central bank statisticians, debt analysts and those involved in strategy formulation.



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Outline of the workshop

1. Introduction (half day)
2. Issues relating to the production of a statistical bulletin on debt (1–2 days):
 - a) introduction and context, b) latest developments in the area of debt statistics, c) classifications, d) defining the needs for a statistical bulletin on debt, e) quality aspects of debt statistics, f) sustainability issues, g) tools to be used in producing a statistical bulletin on debt
3. Examples of tables that can be used in a statistical bulletin on debt (1–2 days)
4. Use of DMFAS for the production of a statistical bulletin on debt (1 day)
5. Development of a country programme for production of a statistical bulletin on debt (2–3 days): a) tables, b) frequency/timeliness, c) how to produce tables from DMFAS or other sources, d) other information, e) resources, f) publications calendar
6. Final presentations on the draft statistical bulletins on debt (half day – 1 day), depending on the national/regional level of the workshop

How can I obtain the capacity-building module on the Production of a Statistical Bulletin on Debt?

In general, all DMFAS activities at the national level are implemented through a technical cooperation project between UNCTAD and the government institution that requests a DMFAS Programme product or service.

After receiving a request from the government institution, UNCTAD will conduct a needs assessment during which a dedicated project manager will meet with the institution's staff to discuss their challenges and requirements and to recommend the activities to be integrated into a project document for subsequent signature and funding.

Some activities can also be provided in the framework of regional workshops at the initiative of regional or international organizations.

For further information, please contact the DMFAS Programme:
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About the DMFAS Programme

Integrated as a key activity of UNCTAD, the DMFAS Programme is part of the Debt and Development Finance Branch of the Division on Globalization and Development Strategies. Its overall objective is to strengthen the capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to manage their debt in an effective and sustainable way, in support of poverty reduction, development and good governance.

The DMFAS Programme offers countries a set of proven solutions to improve their capacity to handle the management of public liabilities and to produce reliable debt data for policymaking purposes. This includes its specialized debt management software, also called DMFAS, as well as advisory services and training activities in debt management. The Programme has so far provided its products and services to 106 institutions in 69 countries.

Other capacity-building modules offered by the DMFAS Programme

Debt Data Validation

The objective of this training is to increase understanding on the importance of ensuring the availability and maintenance of a reliable DMFAS debt database; to identify measures to improve policy instruments that have an impact on data quality in an institution; to identify measures to improve the organizational arrangements in an institution (e.g., functions manual, debt management procedures, resources).

Debt Portfolio Analysis

The objective of this training is to improve the ability of debt managers in developing countries and countries with economies in transition to correctly interpret and to regularly assess the structure, composition and risks inherent in the debt portfolio and to assist them in maximizing the data in the DMFAS debt database in order to conduct an analysis of the debt portfolio.