Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting (ISAR)

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Follow-up on the Accounting Development Tool (ADT)

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UNCTAD-ISAR
ACCOUNTING DEVELOPMENT TOOL

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What is the ADT?

• A quantitative benchmark of a country’s position at a point in time and its progress;

• A country-driven guided self-assessment for strengthening country's reporting infrastructure;

• Guidance towards a consensus-based action plan conducive to capacity building activities;

• Consensus based and field tested document;
• Includes a questionnaire, benchmark references, statistic model, and guidance on how to work with the ADT.
• The ADT is structured into four main pillars:
Indicators A

A.1 – Financial reporting and disclosure
A.2 – Audit
A.3 – Environmental, social and governance reporting
A.4 – Corporate reporting requirements: enforcement, monitoring of implementation, and compliance
A.5 – Licensing of auditors
A.6 – Corporate governance
A.7 – Ethics and
A.8 – Investigation, discipline and appeals.
Indicators B

- B.1 Financial reporting standards – institutional aspects
- B.2 Audit standards - institutional aspects
- B.3 Environmental, social and governance (ESG) reporting - institutional aspects
- B.4 Compliance, monitoring and enforcement – institutional aspects
- B.5 Audit regulation - institutional aspects
- B.6 Coordination
- B.7 Ethics - institutional aspects
- B.8 Accountancy Profession - institutional aspects
Indicators C

C.1 – General assessment
C.2 – Professional education and training
C.3 – Professional skills and general education
C.4 – Assessment of accountancy capabilities and competencies
C.5 – Practical experience requirements
C.6 – Continuing professional development
C.7 – Specialized training and
C.8 – Requirements for accounting technicians.
ELEMENTS

• Corporate financial and non-financial reporting, with a reference to SMEs
• Addendum on IPSAS
• Columns for notes and references
International cooperation

Consultations with key global, regional and national players

Intergovernmental Consensus

Member States
ADT Countries
ADT countries

Belgium
Brazil
China
Croatia
Ecuador
Cote d'Ivory
Mexico
The Netherlands
The Russian Federation
South Africa
Ukraine
Vietnam
ADT benefits

- Assists countries in building strategies and identifying priorities towards international convergence in accounting and reporting;

- Provides a roadmap to countries on building capacity in a consistent and systemic manner towards a stronger legal, institutional and technical basis for high quality accounting and reporting;

- Promotes an open and constructive dialogue and creates awareness of weaknesses and priorities among all stakeholders involved, first of all between the government and the profession.
Why focus on “Accounting for Development”?  
What is the purpose of the ADT?  
What are the ADT’s benefits?  
Who partner with UNCTAD for the ADT?  
Who are the local stakeholders?  
Measuring convergence

About the tool  
What is the purpose of the ADT?  
Implementation of international standards, codes and regulations applicable to corporate reporting are an essential to attract financial resources. Investors look for transparent and consistent corporate information in order to make adequate and informed decisions. **A universal business language** is crucial for investors to compare investment opportunities and allocate their resources in an effective and profitable manner. In the face of these challenges, the need for a coherent approach towards capacity-building in this area has become evident.

Responding to these capacity building needs, [UNCTAD ISAR](http://adt.unctad.org) has been developing the Accounting for Development Tool (ADT).

The ADT acknowledges the pivotal role accounting plays. Using international standards and best practices in the areas of accounting and auditing, the ADT is a quantitative tool for measuring the level of development of a country’s accountancy environment. The ADT provides a quantitative benchmark of a country’s position at a point in time and its progress toward greater implementation of these standards and practices. Information gathered could be made available to donor agencies, regulators, professional associations, educators, and other capital market participants.
Thank you!

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