

**UN Joint SDG Fund support for Egypt**  
**Integrated SDGs Financing**  
**EGYPT IFFs**  
*UNCTAD – MPED (Egypt)*

**Training Workshop on the statistical measurement of  
Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs) in Egypt**

**27 – 31 March 2022**

**Concept note**

The Integrated National Financing Framework ([INFF](#)) is a UN joint programme in partnership with the Government of Egypt that aims to develop capacities and put in place simple systems to continuously measure, map and compare financing flows, which subsequently help in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). An important element of this project is identifying financing opportunities, through better availability and quality of data, in particular data on Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs).

The indicator framework to monitor progress towards achieving the SDGs proposes an SDG indicator 16.4.1 to measure the “total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows (in current United States dollars)”.

Custodian agencies of SDG indicator 16.4.1, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC), released a Conceptual Framework for the Statistical Measurement of Illicit Financial Flows<sup>1</sup> in October 2020. In July 2021, UNCTAD released a draft of Methodological Guidelines to measure Tax and Commercial IFFs for pilot testing<sup>2</sup>, aimed at statistical and other national authorities with a mandate to collect and access relevant information. UNODC are finalising the Guidelines to measure IFFs from extractive activities and illegal drugs markets.

National circumstances dictate a comprehensive and tailored approach to produce reliable and granular IFF statistics. Measurement of the many types of IFFs in one indicator can only be done in close collaboration within the national statistical system (NSS) and with administrative data providers, in coordination by the national statistical office. The compilation of SDG indicator 16.4.1

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/statistics/IFF/IFF\\_Conceptual\\_Framework\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/statistics/IFF/IFF_Conceptual_Framework_FINAL.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://unctad.org/system/files/non-official-document/20210917\\_IFFsGuidelinesForPilots\\_en\\_0.pdf](https://unctad.org/system/files/non-official-document/20210917_IFFsGuidelinesForPilots_en_0.pdf)

is a technical, statistical activity that must be carried out independently in line with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics<sup>3</sup>.

[A national kick-off workshop of pilot activities for measuring IFFs in Egypt](#) took place on 1 September 2021, involving 13 national agencies of Egypt and relevant international agencies, UNCTAD, UNODC and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). During the workshop, implementation of activities related to the measurement of IFFs in Egypt were presented and discussed, with strong support of and coordination by a national focal point, Ministry of Planning and Economic Development (MPED). The workshop presented concepts and methodologies for measuring IFFs and introduced relevant national stakeholders presenting past and currently ongoing work on IFFs in Egypt. The Self-Assessment Questionnaire on IFFs in Egypt (SAQ) was launched during the workshop with national stakeholders, in coordination by MPED, solicited for their inputs by mid-September 2021.

The Steering Committee of INFF project met on the 3 of October 2021 to support the implementation of the joint programme by providing strategic guidance, monitoring the progress, endorsing the action plan of the overall project, etc. In particular, the Steering Committee provides a confirmation of the set working plan for further steps on IFF measurement in Egypt during the national kick-off workshop.

The [National validation Workshop of pilot activities for measuring IFFs in Egypt](#) took place on 22 November 2021 to review the preliminary report on IFF risk assessment in Egypt based on SAQ responses, and to serve as a platform to discuss the formation of a national technical working group, i.e., expert group for statistical measurement of IFFs in Egypt. Moreover, it launched the so-called preliminary data availability review for outlined methods to measure IFFs in Egypt.

Expert Group on IFFs in Egypt held two on-line meeting, one on 8 December 2021 and one on 21 February 2022 to refine data availability review and propose measurement plan for IFF statistics in Egypt, including preliminary mapping of national agencies and identifying training requirements for its members.

This national training workshop on the statistical measurement of IFFs in Egypt is organised with two main specific objectives:

- (1) To review, refine and consolidate the mapping of national agencies to measure IFFs in Egypt by hosting the in-person corroboration of Expert Group members; and
- (2) To provide training on methodologies to measure IFFs, specifically by providing conceptual basis to the participants (guidelines, discussions) and technical training on:

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<sup>3</sup> <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/dnss/gp/fundprinciples.aspx>

- a. Tax and commercial IFF methodologies of trade misinvoicing: method#1 Partner Country Method+ (PCM+) and method#2 Price Filter Method+ (PFM+)
  - b. Crime-related IFF methodologies on drugs trafficking and smuggling of migrants
  - c. Cross-cutting concepts of anti-money laundering
- (3) Moreover, the workshop will serve as a platform to review and discuss further steps, including the roadmap and action plan to sustained national compilation of IFF statistics in Egypt.

Targeted participants of the training workshop are members of national Expert Group for statistical measurement of IFFs in Egypt, allowing for additional technical personnel of relevant national stakeholders to partake to ensure better knowledge distribution and sharing to ensure continuation in capacity enhancing activities within national stakeholders.

The training workshop and the IFF expert group meeting will be conducted in Arabic and English with simultaneous interpretation available. The workshop will be conducted as an in-person event, with limited hybrid option to cater for external experts to contribute to the training of national Expert Group members.