Namibia Statistic Agency

VALIDATING THE ECONOMY-WIDE FLOW MATERIAL FLOW ACCOUNTS (EW-MFA) NAMIBIA

2023

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www.nsa.org.na

Areas of interest

- NSA Trade data validation

- Populating the UNEP Questionnaire

- Involved divisions at the NSA

- Difficulties encountered

- Recommendations to the UNEP

NSA Trade data Validation Process

- The Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) currently sources its trade data from the Customs Authority which is the Namibia Revenue Agency(NamRa).
- Data is received on a monthly basis which is processed and analysed before being made available to the public.
- The NSA reports on actual trade data collected at different point of entries across Namibia, therefore we do not make use of estimates when it comes to reporting.

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- Different methods and tools are used when it comes to validating our trade data, as one of our core principles at the NSA which is also in concordance with statistical principles is to produce quality data which is fit for purpose and use.

- Data is first scrutinized for outliers by our Eurotrace Database Management System before performing data validation checks with sql.

- Since trade data is susceptible to change due to trade policies, negotiations and agreements among other things, what might seem to be an outlier could easily be explained by the aforementioned and this is where advanced validation is important.

Populating the UNEP Questionnaire

- Populating the EW-MFA deemed laborious but made easy with the Manual on Economy Wide Material Flow Accounting as it gave the required overview on the questionnaire.
- The questionnaire outlined the different products to consider when populating the various material categories.
- Trade data based on the HS codes proved to be beneficial as it was easier to identify relevant products that match the descriptions in the material categories.

Products in the manual matching those utilized

1 DIGIT	2 DIGIT	3 DIGIT		
		A.1.1.1	Cereals	
			A.1.1.1.1 Rice	
			A.1.1.1.2 Wheat	
			A.1.1.1.3 Maize	
			A.1.1.1.4 Cereals n.e.c.	
		A.1.1.2	Roots, tubers	
		A.1.1.3	Sugar crops	
		A.1.1.4	Pulses	
A.1 BIOMASS	A.1.1 Crops	A.1.1.5	Nuts	
		A.1.1.6	Oil bearing crops	
		A.1.1.7	Vegetables	
		A.1.1.8	Fruits	
		A.1.1.9	Fibres	
		A.1.1.10	Other crops (Spices, Stimulant crops, Tobacco, Rubber and other crops)	
			A.1.1.10.1 Spice, beverage, pharmaceutical crops	
			A.1.1.10.2 Tobacco	

070930	Aubergines, fresh or chilled
070940	Celery, fresh or chilled
070951	Mushrooms, fresh or chilled
070952	Truffles, fresh or chilled
070953	Mushrooms of the genus Cantharellus
070954	Shiitake (Lentinus edodes)
070955	Matsutake (Tricholoma matsutake, Tricholoma magnivelare, Tricholoma anatolicum, Trichol
070956	Truffles (Tuber spp.)
070959	Cucumbers and gherkins, fresh or chilled: -- Other
070960	Fruits of genus capiscum or pimenta, fresh or chilled
070970	Spinach, fresh or chilled
070990	Other vegetables, fresh or chilled, nes
070991	--Other Globe Artichokes, vegetables fresh or chilled
070992	--Other Olives, vegetables fresh or chilled
070993	--Other Pumkins, Squash & Gourds (Cucurbita spp.), vegetables fresh or chilled
070999	--Other vegetables fresh or chilled, nes
071010	Potatoes, frozen
071021	-- Peas(Pisum sativum)
071022	--Beans (Vigna spp.,Phaseolus spp)
071029	--Other Leguminous vegetables, shelled or unshelled, frozen, nes
071030	-Spinach, New Zealand spinach and orache spinach (garden spinach)
071040	-Sweet corn, frozen
071080	-Other Vegetables, frozen, nes
071090	-Mixtures of vegetables, frozen
071110	Onions provisionally preserved, not for immediate consumption
071120	Olives provisionally preserved, not for immediate consumption
071130	Capers provisionally preserved, not for immediate consumption
071140	Cucumbers and gherkins provisionally preserved
071151	Mushrooms of the genus AGARICUS

Involved divisions at the NSA

- Trade Sub-division (momentarily spearheading environmental statistics)

Difficulties encountered

Considering that it was the first questionnaire of its kind being populated, certain material categories were not fully understood as they were not clearly defined.

- An example of a not-well defined sub-category is 1717, 1718 & 1708 which were ultimately left blank in the submitted questionnaire.

B.3	850	Non-metallic minerals
AGG3A	1200	Construction dominant
AGG3B	1201	Industrial or agricultural dominant
B.3.compound	1717	Mixed /compounded products mainly from non-metallic mineral
B.4	848	Fossil fuels
B.4.1	1193	Coal
B.4.2.1	1203	Crude oil and liquid petroleum products
B.4.2.2	1198	Natural gas and gaseous petroleum products
B.4.3	1202	Oil shale and tar sands
B.4.4	1710	Fossil fuel based products n.e.c
B.4.compound	1718	Mixed /compounded products mainly from fossil fuels
B.5	1708	Mixed / complex products n.e.c.

Recommendations to the UNEP

- We value the work of the UNEP in establishing & maintaining a robust structure of statistics within the Environmental sphere to enable analysis that will influence policy makers to ensure the safety of the environment.
- Therefore, when questionnaires of this nature are distributed to data providers, it will be of benefit to fully capacitate compilers.
- As much as the manuals are useful, a hands on approach will be effective and efficient in acquiring what is expected from these questionnaires.

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