IMF CD IN STATISTICS AT A GLANCE, FY2017

Regional Allocation in Field Time Delivery

6%
Europe

11%
Middle E.
C. Asia

Asia &
The Pacific
18%

Western
Hemisphere
18%

47%
Africa
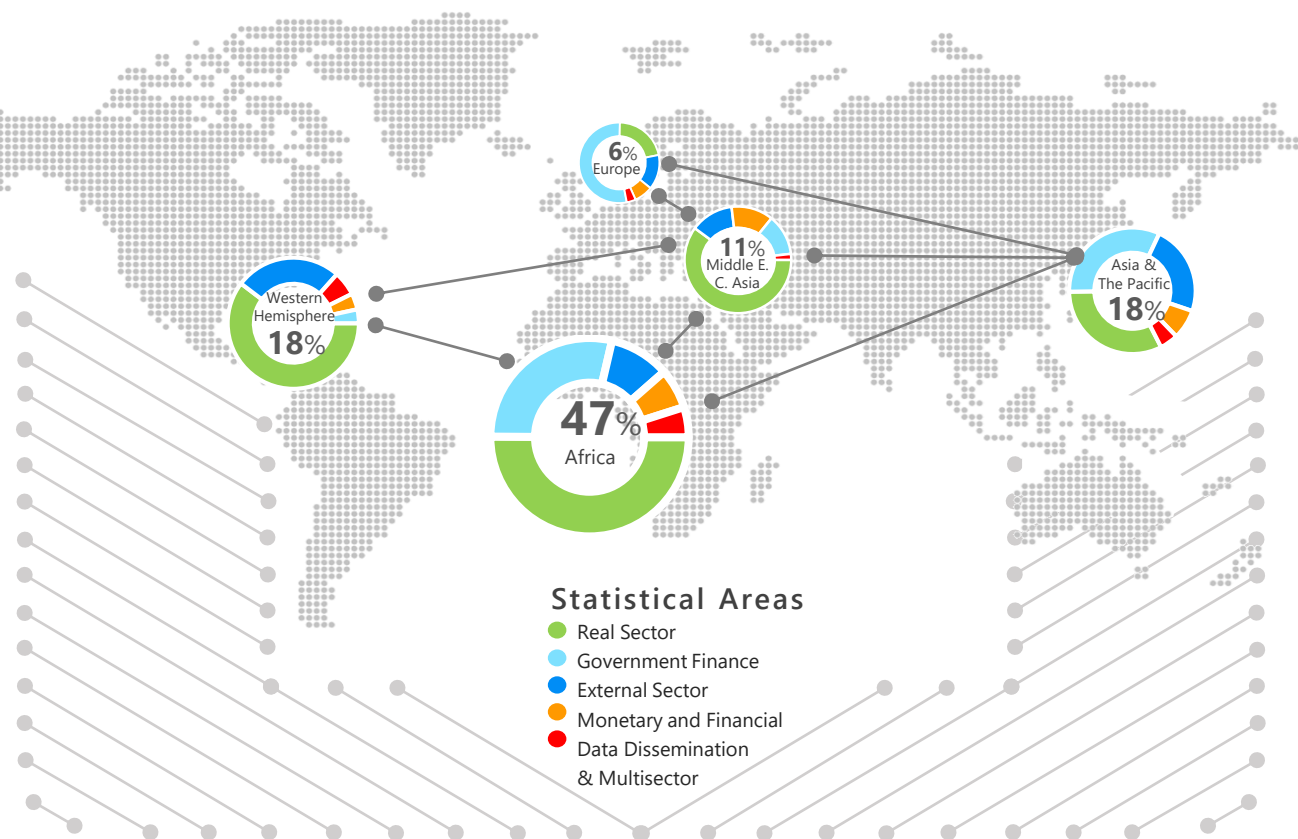
Statistical Areas
- Real Sector
- Government Finance
- External Sector
- Monetary and Financial
- Data Dissemination & Multisector

Africa	Asia & The Pacific	Western Hemisphere	Middle E. & C. Asia	Europe

- Technical Assistance
- Training
- RTAC-Funded
- Partners-Funded
- IMF-Funded
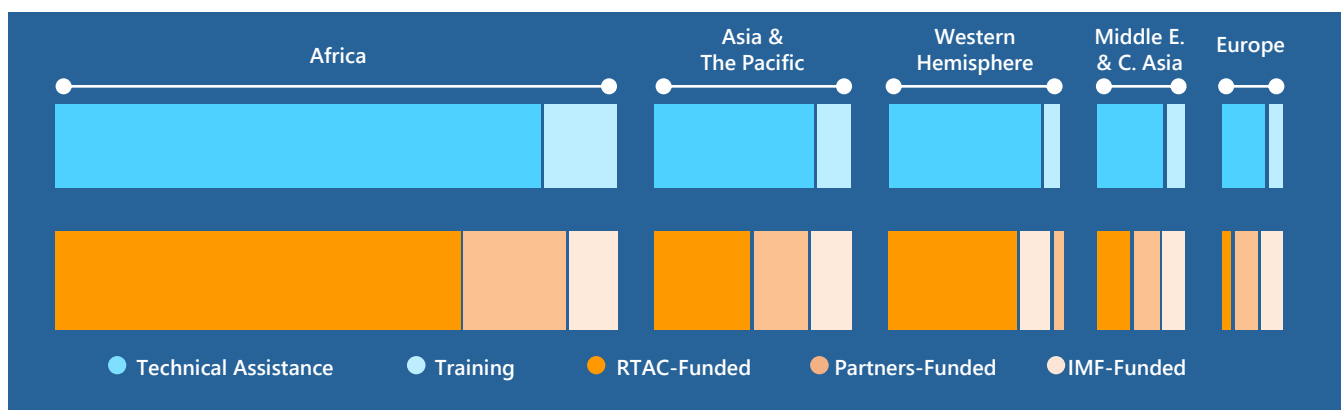
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The D4D Fund is a new IMF trust fund dedicated to putting more and better data in the hands of decision-makers to support evidence-based macroeconomic policies and achieving the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

Focus: Strengthen national statistical systems (NSS) to cope with a more challenging national and international policy environment, promote transparency and accountability, and offer efficient solutions to capacity development (CD).

Conceptual Foundation: Based on a needs assessment that considered (i) demand from countries, (ii) policy relevance, (iii) identified data gaps and data quality concerns, (iv) complementarity of CD provided out of the IMF's Regional Technical Assistance Centers (RTACs) and bilateral CD projects, and (v) the need for flexibility to react to a country's capacity and readiness to accept CD.

Target countries: Mainly low- and lower middle-income countries (LLMICs) world-wide, including fragile states.

Size: US$33 million (including a 7 percent IMF trust fund management fee).

Modules of the D4D Fund:

M1	**Addressing Data Needs and Quality Concerns**	Submodule Real Sector Statistics (RSS) Submodule External Sector Statistics (ESS) Submodule Government Finance Statistics (GFS)
M2	**Financial Access Survey (FAS)**	Sustain and expand the FAS
M3	**Online Learning**	Develop and launch eight fundamental statistics courses (English and up to five other languages)
M4	**Statistical Information Management**	Provide advice on statistical information management practices and related technical environments

M1: Addressing Data Needs and Quality Concerns
- Help countries compile and disseminate data in three topical domains (real, external and government finance sectors) to support policy analysis and formulation and detect economic risks and vulnerabilities;
- Bring more and better data into the public domain, thus enhancing transparency and accountability; and
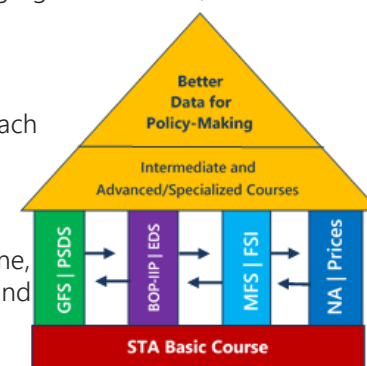- Offer technical advice on enhancing source data and promoting higher-frequency data.

M2: FAS
- Provide policymakers and analysts with high-quality statistics in this unique financial inclusion database covering 189 economies (http://data.imf.org/fas);
- Improve and expand FAS to new areas, such as new access points, gender-disaggregated statistics, and costs of financial access; and
- Provide monitoring basis for SDG financial inclusion indicator.

M3: Online Learning
- Develop a new structured online learning curriculum to exponentially enhance reach of statistics training in eight fundamental statistical topical areas; and
- Offer online learning in up to six languages to allow truly global delivery.

M4: Statistical Information Management
- Develop advice to help statistical offices, central banks, and ministries to streamline, standardize, and automate their data management practices and infrastructure; and
- Enhance countries' ability to compile and disseminate macroeconomic statistics.

Better
Data for
Policy-Making

Intermediate and
Advanced/Specialized Courses

GFS | PSDS   BOP-IIP | EDS   MFS | FSI   NA | Prices

STA Basic Course

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THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE · FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT · 13–16 JULY 2015 · ADDIS ABABA · ETHIOPIA · TIME FOR GLOBAL ACTION

United Nations WORLD DATA FORUM

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

d4d data for decisions FUND

ADDIS AGENDA ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT (2015) DATA CHAPTER

- High quality disaggregated data is essential input for smart and transparent decision-making, including in support of the post-2015 agenda and its means of implementation
- National statistical systems require strengthening to improve policy-making at all levels
- Domestic capacity, transparency and accountability need to be enhanced
- Call for increased statistical capacity development support to developing countries

2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (2015)

- 17 goals, 169 targets, and 230 indicators
- Scale and ambition require intensive global engagement
- New agenda will require mobilization of financial resources and capacity development
- Quality, accessible, timely and reliable data will be needed to help measure progress and ensure that no one is left behind
- Call to intensify efforts to strengthen capacities of national statistical offices and data systems to ensure access to a wide range of data

CAPE TOWN GLOBAL ACTION PLAN FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DATA (2017)

- Call for policy leaders to achieve a global pact in support of modernization of countries' national statistical systems
- Action plans to improve availability and quality of sectoral data and indicators may be developed with involvement of international organizations
- Six strategic objectives, including
  - Developing and strengthening partnerships of national and global statistical systems to improve transparency and accessibility of official statistics to the public
  - Mobilizing resources coordinating efforts for statistical capacity development

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Why is it essential to fund and implement the D4D Fund at this stage?

Good data are essential for informed decision-making, both by the public and private sectors. The 2007/08 global crisis underscored that data used for decision-making were deficient, and key information on risks and vulnerabilities was unavailable. This affected all statistical sectors, but was most pronounced in the fiscal and financial domains. While it is imperative to improve data availability to avoid future crises and invest in statistics, the global effort to achieve 17 SDGs underlying the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development poses additional challenges for countries' NSS to modernize their statistical development. This is even more important in LLMICs. The D4D Fund aims to offer support to these countries to meet these challenges.

How would evidence-based decision-making be improved?

The D4D Fund aims to proactively equip countries with the necessary expertise to develop their NSS in the area of macroeconomic statistics to enhance the availability, quality, timeliness, and comparability of data. Macroeconomic statistics are crucial for a country's well-being. Some examples:

- A government scrutinizes macroeconomic parameters — GDP, prices, external accounts, and public debt—before developing and adopting the national budget.
- A Minister of Finance is better able to assess a country's fiscal position and risks by relying on timely and high-quality government finance statistics that capture the essence of the government's activities in the economy.
- Global and domestic companies use statistics, as they seek opportunities to fuel performance, profit and employment, and consider economic data as key inputs into their strategic decision-making.
- And rating agencies—among the most powerful players in global finance—rely on economic data to give investors guidance on which investments are the safest.

Why would a focus on macroeconomic statistics help NSS meet the SDG challenges?

Supporting macroeconomic statistics is a core mandate of the IMF. Some 700 missions per year provide technical assistance and training to countries around the globe, many of them LLMICs. Despite major achievements, NSS continue to be hampered with budget, staffing and IT constraints, impairing the availability of data for decision-making.

The 2030 SDG agenda is a unique opportunity to generate support for investment in statistical development. Given that dozens of the SDG indicators relate to macroeconomic aggregates, developing a sound basis for macroeconomic statistics will substantially enhance SDG monitoring. For example, if the quality of GDP is enhanced by better capturing the informal economy, the reliability of many SDG indicators will improve over time, as they often relate to the size of the economy. Investment in CD in macroeconomic statistics can also be expected to have beneficial spillovers to the compilation and dissemination of other statistics, such as social and environmental statistics. This is because the CD to be provided under the D4D Fund—including under the planned online training program—will transmit crucial compiling experience that will have positive externalities beyond the macroeconomic area.

How does investment in statistics help promote transparency and accountability?

Transparency enables a better-informed debate by governments and their various stakeholders about the formulation, analysis, and results of policy-making. It helps highlight the basis, trade-offs, and risks that fed into decisions taken, and instills credibility to the authorities' policies. Apart from fostering accountability with domestic stakeholders—parliament, civil society and the public at large—making more and better data available also helps mitigate and manage perceived risks by domestic and global investors. Studies have found that improved data transparency has reduced sovereign borrowing costs and increased FDI inflows, among others.

How does online learning build capacity?

IMF statistics training courses are heavily oversubscribed, given the huge capacity needs world-wide. By developing and offering eight fundamental statistics courses in up to six languages to LLMIC officials and others, the IMF can vastly leverage the reach of its training, amplify the effects of CD, and provide knock-on effects beyond macroeconomic statistics. IMF experience shows that participants in LLMICs benefit most from online learning.

How can the FAS support policy-making and SDG compliance?

The FAS is a high-quality, supply-side financial inclusion database with a global reach to support policy analysis and formulation. Financial inclusion is critical to inclusive growth and economic stability. If not well-managed, financial inclusion can undermine stability. A good understanding of financial inclusion and ability to formulate development and macro-prudential policies hinge on available high-quality data—which is what the FAS offers. The FAS is constantly being adapted to close data gaps, capture innovation, and enhance its relevance, such as by capturing gender-disaggregated data or the costs of financial access. The D4D Fund will help ensure the medium-term financial sustainability of the FAS, and partners will be able to help shape its future direction.

How can partners benefit from joining the D4D Fund?

Partners will help ensure that the D4D Fund's objectives are met and countries make targeted progress. They can bring in their technical expertise, experience in providing or funding CD, and knowledge of particular countries to help steer priorities in work plans. As such, the policy focus of the CD will help partners' priority countries improve their policy-making. As many potential partners have committed to supporting the SDGs under their respective development strategies, the D4D Fund offers an efficient solution to demonstrate results in helping LLMICs meet the SDG challenges. Partners will also be afforded visibility, as their flag or logo will be embedded in the D4D Fund's logo and appear on TA reports and outreach materials, and be displayed at workshops.