sdmx
Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange

SDMX CONTENT-ORIENTED GUIDELINES

ANNEX 1:

CROSS-DOMAIN CONCEPTS

Please note that the Cross-Domain Concepts were integrated in February 2016 into the SDMX Glossary (which replaced the Metadata Common Vocabulary - MCV)

2009

Table of Contents

1. Accessibility

ID: ACCESSIBILITY

Description: The ease and the conditions under which statistical information can be obtained.

Context: Accessibility refers to the availability of statistical information to the user. It includes the ease with which the existence of information can be ascertained, as well as the suitability of the form or medium through which the information can be accessed. The cost of the information may also be an aspect of accessibility for some users.

Presentation: Free text

2. Accuracy

ID: ACCURACY

Description: Closeness of computations or estimates to the exact or true values that the statistics were intended to measure.

Context: The accuracy of statistical information is the degree to which the information correctly describes the phenomena. It is usually characterized in terms of error in statistical estimates and is often decomposed into bias (systematic error) and variance (random error) components. Accuracy can contain either measures of accuracy (numerical results of the methods for assessing the accuracy of data) or qualitative assessment indicators. It may also be described in terms of the major sources of error that potentially cause inaccuracy (e.g., coverage, sampling, non response, response error). Accuracy is associated with the "reliability" of the data, which is defined as the closeness of the initial estimated value to the subsequent estimated value.
This concept can be broken down into: Accuracy - overall (summary assessment); Accuracy - non-sampling error; Accuracy - sampling error.

Presentation: Free text

Accuracy – overall

ID: ACCURACY_OVERALL

Description: Assessment of accuracy, linked to a certain data set or domain, which is summarising the various components into one single measure.

Presentation: Free text

Non-sampling error

ID: NONSAMPLING_ERR

Description: Error in sample estimates which cannot be attributed to sampling fluctuations.

Context: Non-sampling errors may arise from many different sources such as defects in the sampling frame, faulty demarcation of sample units, defects in the selection of sample units, mistakes in the collection of data due to personal variations, misunderstanding, bias, negligence or dishonesty on the part of the investigator or of the interviewer, mistakes at the stage of the processing of the data, etc.
Non- sampling errors may be categorised as:
- Coverage errors (or frame errors) due to divergences between the target population and the frame population ;
- Measurement errors occurring during data collection.
- Nonresponse errors caused by no data collected for a population unit or for some survey variables.
- Processing errors due to errors introduced during data entry, data editing, sometimes coding and imputation.
- Model assumption errors.

Presentation: Free text

Sampling error

ID: SAMPLING_ERR

Description: That part of the difference between a population value and an estimate thereof, derived from a random sample, which is due to the fact that only a subset of the population is enumerated.

Comment: Sampling errors are distinct from errors due to imperfect selection, bias in response or estimation, errors of observation and recording, etc.
For probability sampling, the random variation due to sampling can be calculated. For non-probability sampling, random errors cannot be calculated without reference to some kind of model. The totality of sampling errors in all possible samples of the same size generates the sampling distribution of the statistic which is being used to estimate the parent value.

Presentation: Free text

3. Adjustment

ID: ADJUSTMENT

Description: The set of procedures employed to modify statistical data to enable it to conform to national or international standards or to address data quality differences when compiling specific data sets.

Context: Adjustments may be associated with changes in definitions, exchange rates, prices, seasons and other factors. Adjustments are in particular applied to compile consistent time series, but the concept is also used for describing adjustments related to other types of data.
Adjustment can be distinguished from editing and imputation, in that before adjustment, the data are already of sufficient quality to be considered usable.
"Adjustment - coded" refers to the type of adjustment used, represented by a code, while "Adjustment - detail" refers to the textual description of the type of adjustment used.

Presentation: Free text

Adjustment - coded

ID: ADJUST_CODED

Description: Type of adjustment used, represented by a code.

Context: In data messages, adjustments are identified by a code related to the type of adjustment used, e.g. trading day adjustment, working day adjustment, seasonal adjustment or trend-cycle adjustment.

Presentation: CODE LIST

Adjustment - detail

ID: ADJUST_DETAIL

Description: Textual description of the type of adjustment used.

Context: "Adjustment detail" can be used for presenting a textual explanation of the type of adjustment (e.g. working day, trading day adjustment, seasonal adjustment or trend-cycle adjustment) as well as the method used.

Presentation: Free text

4. Age

ID: AGE

Description: The length of time that a person has lived or a thing has existed.

Context: Age can be expressed as a number, e.g. 25 years old, or as a range, e.g. "between 25 and 29 years" or "6 to 11 months".
It is in general a coded concept.

Presentation: CODE LIST

5. Base period

ID: BASE_PER

Description: The period of time used as the base of an index number, or to which a constant series refers.

Context: The base period refers to the period when the published index is 100, or to which weights or base data refer to. It can be one single year (e.g. 1995=100) but it may be as short as one day or as long as a specified number of years. "Base period" may include an indication of the value of the series in the base period (usually 1 or 100).

Presentation: CODE LIST
Date/time stamp
Free text

6. Civil Status

ID: CIVIL_STATUS

Description: Legal, conjugal status of each individual in relation to the marriage laws or customs of the country.

Context: The civil status is often referred to as marital status and represented through codes of the respective code list.

Presentation: CODE LIST

7. Clarity

ID: CLARITY

Description: The extent to which easily comprehensible metadata are available, where these metadata are necessary to give a full understanding of statistical data.

Context: Clarity is sometimes referred to as "interpretability". It refers to the data information environment: whether data are accompanied by appropriate metadata, including information on their quality, and the extent to which additional assistance is provided to users by data providers.
In the European Statistics Code of Practice, clarity is strictly associated to accessibility to form one single quality criteria: "accessibility and clarity".

Presentation: Free text

8. Classification system

ID: CLASS_SYSTEM

Description: Arrangement or division of objects into groups based on characteristics which the objects have in common.

Context: The definition entails the description of the classification being used and how this conforms to internationally agreed standards, guidelines, or good practices. It also refers to the description of deviations of the classification system compared to statistical standards, guidelines, or good practices, when relevant.
Examples of frequently used international classifications are ISCO (International Standard Classification of Occupations), ISIC (the United Nations International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities), NACE (Statistical Classification Of Economic Activities) and NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for statistics).

Presentation: Free text

9. Coherence

ID: COHERENCE

Description: Adequacy of statistics to be combined in different ways and for various uses.

Context: When originating from different sources, and in particular from statistical surveys using different methodology, statistics are often not completely identical, but show differences in results due to different approaches, classifications and methodological standards. There are several areas where the assessment of coherence is regularly conducted: between provisional and final statistics, between annual and short-term statistics, between statistics from the same socio-economic domain, and between survey statistics and national accounts.
The concept of coherence is closely related to the concept of comparability between statistical domains. Both coherence and comparability refer to a data set with respect to another. The difference between the two is that comparability refers to comparisons between statistics based on usually unrelated statistical populations and coherence refers to comparisons between statistics for the same or largely similar populations.
Coherence can be generally broken down into "Coherence - cross domain" and "Coherence - internal".
Users should be aware that, in the Data Quality Assessment Framework of the International Monetary Fund, the term "consistency" is used for indicating "logical and numerical coherence". In that framework, "internal consistency" and "intersectoral and cross-domain consistency" can be mapped to "internal coherence" and "cross-domain coherence" respectively.

Presentation: Free text

Coherence - cross domain

ID: COHER_X_DOM

Description: Extent to which statistics are reconcilable with those obtained through other data sources or statistical domains.

Context: Differences in the statistical results calculated on the basis of different statistical domains, or surveys based on different methodologies (e.g. between annual and short-term statistics or between social statistics and national accounts) should be described.

Presentation: Free text.

Coherence - internal

ID: COHER_INTERNAL

Description: Extent to which statistics are consistent within a given data set.

Context: Differences in the statistical results calculated for the same statistical domain, based on stable or changing methodology (e.g. between provisional and final statistics or between different reference years showing break in series) should be described. Frequently, a group of statistics of a different type (in monetary value, in volume or constant price, price indicators, etc) measure the same phenomenon using different methodologies. For instance, statistics on employment, depending on whether they result from employers' declarations or household surveys do not lead exactly to the same results. However, there are often differences in the concepts used (de-jure or de-facto population, for instance), in the registration date, in the cif/fob registration for external trade, etc. It is very important to check that these representations do not diverge too much in order to anticipate users' questions and for preparing corrective actions.

Presentation: Free text

10. Comment

ID: COMMENT

Description: Supplementary descriptive text which can be attached to data or metadata.

Context: In SDMX messages, a comment may contain a descriptive text which can be attached to an agency, provision agreement, dataflow, data set, group, time series, or observation.
A list of ID broken down by attachment level is therefore needed:
COMMENT_AGENCY, COMMENT_AGR, COMMENT_DFL, COMMENT_DSET, COMMENT_GRP, COMMENT_TS, COMMENT_OBS.

Presentation: Free text

11. Comparability

ID: COMPARABILITY

Description: The extent to which differences between statistics can be attributed to differences between the true values of the statistical characteristics.

Context: Comparability aims at measuring the impact of differences in applied statistical concepts and definitions on the comparison of statistics between geographical areas, non-geographical dimensions, or over time. Comparability of statistics, i.e. their usefulness in drawing comparisons and contrast among different populations, is a complex concept, difficult to assess in precise or absolute terms. In general terms, it means that statistics for different populations can be legitimately aggregated, compared and interpreted in relation to each other or against some common standard. Metadata must convey such information that will help any interested party in evaluating comparability of the data, which is the result of a multitude of factors.
In some quality frameworks, for instance in the European Statistical Code of Practice, comparability is strictly associated with the coherence of statistics.
The concept can be further broken down into:
(a) Comparability - geographical, referring to the degree of comparability between statistics measuring the same phenomenon for different geographical areas.
(b) Comparability over time, referring to the degree of comparability between two or more instances of data on the same phenomenon measured at different points in time.
(c) Comparability between domains, referring to the comparability between different survey results which target similar characteristics in different statistical domains.

Presentation: Free text

Comparability - between domains

ID: COMPAR_DOMAINS

Description: Extent to which statistics are comparable between different statistical domains.

Context: Comparability between domains refers to the comparability between different statistics which target similar characteristics in different statistical domains. Users frequently compare statistics from different domains, which are produced on the basis of different methodologies. The difference in methodologies used for the estimation of the statistics should be reported. This concerns mainly the definition of statistical characteristics, the reference period, the definition of the statistical unit and the statistical measure.

Presentation: Free text

Comparability - geographical

ID: COMPAR_GEO

Description: Extent to which statistics are comparable between geographical areas.

Context: Geographical comparability refers to the degree of comparability between similar survey results measuring the same phenomenon across geographical areas or regions. The surveys are in general conducted by different statistical agencies, referring to populations in different geographical areas, sometimes based on a harmonised methodology.

Presentation: Free text

Comparability - over time

ID: COMPAR_TIME

Description: Extent to which statistics are comparable or reconcilable over time.

Context: Comparability over time refers to the degree of comparability between the results of two or several surveys related to the same domain, carried out by the same statistical agency.

Presentation: Free text

12. Compiling agency

ID: COMPILING_ORG

Description: The organisation compiling the data being reported.

Context: The dimension is needed as two agencies might be compiling the exact same data but using different sources or concepts (the latter would be partially captured by the dimensions). The provider ID may be not sufficient, as one provider could disseminate the data compiled by different compiling agencies.

Presentation: CODE LIST

13. Confidentiality

ID: CONF

Description: A property of data indicating the extent to which their unauthorised disclosure could be prejudicial or harmful to the interest of the source or other relevant parties.

Context: Confidentiality refers to a property of data with respect to whether, for example, they are public or their disclosure is subject to restrictions. For instance, data allowing the identification of a physical or legal person, either directly or indirectly, may be characterised as confidential according to the relevant national or international legislation. Unauthorised disclosure of data that are restricted or confidential is not permitted and even legislative measures or other formal provisions may be used to prevent disclosure. Often, there are procedures in place to prevent disclosure of restricted or confidential data, including rules applying to staff, aggregation rules when disseminating data, provision of unit records, etc.
Sensitivity (of information) is sometimes used as a synonym to confidentiality.
This concept can be broken down into: Confidentiality - policy; Confidentiality - status; Confidentiality - data treatment.

Presentation: Free text

Confidentiality - data treatment

ID: CONF_DATA_TR

Description: Rules applied for treating the data set to ensure statistical confidentiality and prevent unauthorised disclosure.

Context: The rules applied when treating the data with regard to statistical confidentiality should be explained (e.g. aggregation rules when disseminating data, provision of unit records, etc.).

Presentation: Free text

Confidentiality - policy

ID: CONF_POLICY

Description: Legislative measures or other formal procedures which prevent unauthorised disclosure of data that identify a person or economic entity either directly or indirectly.

Context: Textual description and references to legislation or other rules related to statistical confidentiality.

Presentation: Free text

Confidentiality - status

ID: CONF_STATUS

Description: Information about the confidentiality status of the object to which this attribute is attached.

Context: This concept is related to data and determines the exact status of the value. i.e. if a specific value is confidential or not. This concept is always coded, i.e. it takes its value from the respective code list.
A list of ID broken down by attachment level is recommended: CONF_STATUS_DFL (dataflow), CONF_STATUS_DSET (dataset), CONF_STATUS_GRP (group), CONF_STATUS_TS (series) or CONF_STATUS_OBS (observation).

Presentation: CODE LIST: CL_CONF_STATUS

14. Contact

ID: CONTACT

Description: Individual or organisational contact points for the data or metadata, including information on how to reach the contact points.

Context: "Contact" describes contact points for the data or metadata, including how to reach the contact points.
The main attributes of "contacts" are:
Contact mail address: The mailing address of the contact.
Contact name: The name of the contact.
Contact title: The name of the position held by the contact.
Contact email address: An e-mail address for correspondence with the contact.
Contect phone number: A telephone number for spoken correspondence.
Other detailed attributes (e.g. country code, city code, first name, family name, etc.) can be identified for the purpose of database storage.

Presentation: Free text

Contact email address

ID: CONTACT_EMAIL

Description: E-mail address of the contact points for the data or metadata

Presentation: Free text

Contact fax number

ID: CONTACT_FAX

Description: Fax number of the contact points for the data or metadata.

Presentation: Free text

Contact mail address

ID: CONTACT_MAIL

Description: The postal address of the contact points for the data or metadata.

Presentation: Free text

Contact name

ID: CONTACT_NAME

Description: The name of the contact points for the data or metadata.

Presentation: Free text

Contact organisation

ID: CONTACT_ORGANISATION

Description: The name of the organisation of the contact points for the data or metadata.

Presentation: CODE LIST

Contact organisation unit

ID: ORGANISATION_UNIT

Description: An addressable subdivision of an organisation

Context: This contact refers to the contact point for data and metadata.

Presentation: Free text

Contact person function

ID: CONTACT_FUNCT

Description: The area of technical responsibility of the contact, such as "methodology", "database management" or "dissemination".

Presentation: Free text

Contact phone number

ID: CONTACT_PHONE

Description: The telephone number of the contact points for the data or metadata.

Presentation: Free text

15. Cost and burden

ID: COST_BURDEN

Description: Cost associated with the collection and production of a statistical product and burden on respondents.

Context: The cost is associated with a statistical product and can be financial, human or time-related. It may consist of staff costs, data collection costs and other costs related to reporting obligations.
The burden is often measured by costs for the respondents (businesses, institutions, households, individuals) imposed by a statistical obligation. The overall burden of delivering the information depends on: a) the number of respondents; b) the average time required to provide the information, including time spent after receipt of the questionnaire ("recontact time"); and c) the hourly cost of a respondent's time.

Presentation: Free text

Cost and burden - efficiency management

ID: COST_BURDEN_EFF

Description: Cost-benefit analysis, effectiveness of execution of medium term statistical programmes, and ensuring efficient use of resources.

Presentation: Free text

Cost and burden - resources

ID: COST_BURDEN_RES

Description: Staff, facilities, computing resources, and financing to undertake statistical production.

Context: It may include the contribution of respondent time in supplying information (burden) as a distinct subject under this heading.

Presentation: Free text

16. Counterpart reference area

ID: VIS_AREA

Description: The secondary area, as opposed to the reference area, to which the measured data is in relation.

Context: The "counterpart area" (also known as "vis-a-vis area") is related to statistics on foreign trade, migration or other domains. It determines, from the point of view of the reporting country, the corresponding area to which the economic or other flows are related to (for instance, in statistics on imports, the counterpart reference area is the area of origin of the goods).
A categorisation of ID's per attachment level (VIS_AREA_DSET for dataset, VIS_AREA_GRP for group) is recommended.

Presentation: CODE LIST: CL_AREA

17. Coverage

ID: COVERAGE

Description: The definition of the population that statistics aim to cover.

Context: The term "coverage" encompasses the descriptions of key dimensions delimiting the statistics produced, e.g. geographical, institutional, product, economic sector, industry, occupation, transaction, etc., as well as relevant exceptions and exclusions.
The term Coverage describes the scope of the data compiled, rather than the characteristics of the survey.

Presentation: Free text

Coverage - sector

ID: COVERAGE_SECTOR

Description: Main economic or other sectors covered by the statistics.

Context: The sector coverage delimits the statistical results with regard to the main sectors covered. These sectors can be institutional sectors, economic or other sectors (e.g. local government sector, agriculture, forestry, or business services).

Presentation: *Free text*

Coverage - time

ID: COVERAGE_TIME

Description: The length of time for which data are available.

Context: The time period covered can be indicated as a time interval, e.g. "1985 to 2006" for annual time series data, or as several intervals or values of time.

Presentation: Free text

18. Currency

ID: CURRENCY

Description: Monetary denomination of the object being measured.

Presentation: CODE LIST: CL_CURRENCY

19. Data collection

ID: COLL_METHOD

Description: Systematic process of gathering data for official statistics.

Context: There are a number of data collection methods used for official statistics, including computer-aided personal or telephone interview CAPI/CATI, mailed questionnaires, electronic or internet questionnaires and direct observation. The data collection may be exclusively for statistical purposes, or primarily for non-statistical purposes. Descriptions of data collection methods should include the purpose for which the data were collected, the period the data refer to, the classifications and definitions used, and any constraints related to further use of these data.

Presentation: Free text

20. Data compilation

ID: DATA_COMP

Description: Operations performed on data to derive new information according to a given set of rules.

Context: "Data compilation" refers to the description of statistical procedures used for producing intermediate data and final statistical outputs. Data compilation covers, among other things, the use of weighting schemes, methods for imputing missing values or source data, statistical adjustment, balancing/cross-checking techniques and relevant characteristics of the specific methods applied.

Presentation: Free text

21. Data dissemination agency

ID: DISS_ORG

Description: The organisation disseminating the data.

Presentation: CODE LIST

22. Data editing

ID: DATA_EDITING

Description: Activity aimed at detecting and correcting errors, logical inconsistencies and suspicious data.

Context: Editing techniques refer to a range of procedures and processes used for detecting and handling errors in data, also aiming at avoiding their future repetition. An "edit" is the correction of an error in data. An "editing rule" is the specification of the conditions under which edits are made.
Examples of different techniques include the different approaches to editing such as micro-editing/ macro-editing, input/output editing, or to the various tools available for editing such as graphical editing, interactive editing, etc.
Edit types refer to the actual nature of edits applied to data during input or output processing. These include:
- validation edits, to check the validity of basic identification of classificatory items in unit data;
- logical edits, to ensure that two or more data items do not have contradictory values;
- consistency edits, to ensure that precise and correct arithmetic relationships exist between two or more data items;
- range edits, identifying whether or not a data item value falls inside a determined acceptable range;
- variance edits, looking for suspiciously high variances at the output edit stage.
Micro-editing and macro-editing may be distinguished in order to calculate rate of edits. Edit types may also refer to whether these edits are fatal or query type, i.e. whether they detect errors with certainty or point to suspicious data items.

Presentation: Free text

23. Data presentation

ID: DATA_PRES

Description: Description of the disseminated data.

Context: Data can be displayed to users as tables, graphs or maps. According to the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, the choice of appropriate presentation methods should be made in accordance with professional considerations. Data presentation includes the description of the dataset disseminated with the main variables covered, the classifications and breakdowns used, the reference area, a summary information on the time period covered and, if applicable, the base period used.
This concept can be broken down into: "data presentation: description" and "data presentation: disseminated detail".

Presentation: Free text

Data description

ID: DATA_DESCR

Description: Main characteristics of the data set described in an easily understandable manner, referring to the data and indicators disseminated.

Context: This summary description should provide an immediate understanding of the data to users (also to those which do not have a broader technical knowledge of the data set in question).

Presentation: Free text

Disseminated detail

ID: DISS_DET

Description: Disseminated domain, measure, and time period breakdowns of statistics in the dataset.

Context: Description of data disseminated or available on request by, for example: time period covered, geographical coverage, coverage of breakdowns by geographical entities, target population and its breakdowns, and coverage of variables measured in the statistical target population. Also the standards (e.g., classification systems) employed in the breakdowns provided should be described, so that datasets in different domains can be related through an appropriate set of common concepts.

Presentation: Free text

24. Data provider

ID: DATA_PROVIDER

Description: Organisation which produces data or metadata.

Presentation: CODE LIST
Free text

25. Data revision

ID: DATA_REV

Description: Any change in a value of a statistic released to the public.

Context: Preliminary data are revised when more and better source data become available, or due to a change in methodology. "Data revision" describes the policy and practice for identifying the revision status of the data, as well as the availability of revision studies and analyses.
This concept can be broken down into: "Data revision - policy"; "Data revision - practice"; "Data revision - studies".

Presentation: Free text

Data revision - policy

ID: REV_POLICY

Description: Policy aimed at ensuring the transparency of disseminated data, whereby preliminary data are compiled that are later revised.

Context: The general guidelines for handling data revisions applied by a data providing agency should be described.

Presentation: Free text

Data revision - practice

ID: REV_PRACTICE

Description: Information on the data revision practice.

Context: Documentation regarding the source data used and the way they are adjusted, in order to give compilers the possibility of incorporating new and more accurate information into estimates, thus improving their accuracy without introducing breaks in the time series. It also describes the revision status of available data.
Data may also be subject to regular or ad hoc revisions as a result of the introduction of new classifications, compilation frameworks and methodologies which result in the compilation of historical data that replaces previously released data. Whether or not such changes constitute an actual "revision" or the compilation of a "new" series is a matter of judgment to be done by the statistical agency.

Presentation: Free text

Data revision - studies

ID: REV_STUDY

Description: Information about data revision studies and analyses.

Context: Description of periodic studies related to data revisions. These studies can contain quantitative measures of the effects of revisions, such as mean revision and revision variance in estimates.

Presentation: Free text

26. Data set identifier

ID: DSI

Description: Sequence of characters identifying the data set with which it is associated.

Context: The data set identifier is specified and agreed between data exchange partners in the context of a data exchange agreement.

Presentation: Free text

27. Data update

ID: DATA_UPDATE

Description: The date on which the data element was inserted or modified in the database.

Context: The data update relates to the date which is registered in the production or the dissemination database of a data compiling organisation. The modification can imply several actions: data can be updated, verified and validated without change, or deleted. The data update does not necessarily imply that data are released.
The date of the data update may refer to the last update of the content, or to the latest verification without update of the content, or to the date of dissemination on the web. Correspondingly, this concept can be broken down into: data update - last update; data update - last verification; data update - last posted.

Presentation: Date/time stamp

28. Data validation

ID: DATA_VALIDATION

Description: Process of monitoring the results of data compilation and ensuring the quality of the statistical results.

Context: Data validation describes methods and processes for assessing statistical data, and how the results of the assessments are monitored and made available to improve statistical processes.
All the controls made in terms of quality of the data to be published or already published are included in the validation process. Validation also takes into account the results of studies and analysis of revisions and how they are used to improve statistical processes. In this process, two dimensions can be distinguished: (i) validation before publication of the figures and (ii) validation after publication.
This concept can be further broken down into "Data validation: intermediate", "Data validation: output" and "Data validation: source".

Presentation: Free text

Data validation - intermediate

ID: DATA_VAL_INTER

Description: Validation that intermediate calculations leading to statistical outputs have been correctly done.

Context: It contains the description of how intermediate results are checked or compared with other information where applicable, and how discrepancies and other problems in intermediate data are assessed and investigated.

Presentation: Free text

Data validation - output

ID: DATA_VAL_OUTPUT

Description: Assessment of discrepancies and other problems in statistical outputs.

Context: "Data validation output" describes how statistical discrepancies in the final data are assessed and investigated and how other potential indicators or problems in statistical output are investigated. The assessment can be done before or after publication of the data.

Presentation: Free text

Data validation - source

ID: DATA_VAL_SOURCE

Description: Assessment of discrepancies and other problems related to source data.

Context: "Data validation - source" describes the assessment of source data including censuses, sample surveys, and administrative records and how the results of the assessments are monitored and made available to improve statistical processes.

Presentation: Free text

29. Decimals

ID: DECIMALS

Description: The number of digits of an observation to the right of a decimal point.

Presentation: CODE LIST: CL_DECIMALS

30. Dissemination format

ID: DISS_FORMAT

Description: Media by which statistical data and metadata are disseminated.

Context: "Dissemination format" refers to the various means of dissemination used for making the data available to the public. It includes a description of the various formats available, including where and how to get the information (for instance paper, electronic publications, on-line databases).
This concept can be further broken down into: Microdata access, News release, Online database, Publications and Other formats.

Presentation: Free text

Dissemination format - microdata access

ID: MICRO_DAT_ACC

Description: Information on whether micro-data are also disseminated.

Context: It should be stated if micro-data are also disseminated, e.g. to researchers. Access conditions should be described in short.

Presentation: Free text

Dissemination format - news release

ID: NEWS_REL

Description: Regular or ad-hoc press releases linked to the data.

Context: This concept covers press releases or other kind of similar releases linked to data or metadata.

Presentation: Free text

Dissemination format - online database

ID: ONLINE_DB

Description: Information about on-line databases in which the disseminated data can be accessed.

Context: Link to the on-line database where the data are available, with a summary identification of domain names as released on the website, as well as the related access conditions.

Presentation: Free text

Dissemination format - other

ID: DISS_OTHER

Description: References to the most important other data dissemination done.

Context: Examples of other dissemination formats are analytical publications edited by policy users.
This concept includes, as a sub-element, "Supplementary data", i.e. any customised tabulation that can be provided to meet specific requests (including information on procedures for obtaining access to these data).

Presentation: Free text

Dissemination format - publications

ID: PUBLICATIONS

Description: Regular or ad-hoc publications in which the data are made available to the public.

Context: References to the most important data dissemination done through paper or on-line publications, including a summary identification and information on availability of the publication means.

Presentation: Free text

31. Documentation on methodology

ID: DOC_METHOD

Description: Descriptive text and references to methodological documents available.

Context: "Documentation on methodology" refers to the availability of documentation related to various aspects of the data, such as methodological documents, summary notes or papers covering concepts, scope, classifications and statistical techniques.
This concept also includes the "Advance notice of changes in methodology", indicating whether the public is notified before a methodological change affects disseminated data and, if so, how long before.

Presentation: Free text

Documentation on methodology - advance notice

ID: ADV_NOTICE

Description: Policy on notifying the public of changes in methodology, indicating whether the public is notified before a methodological change affects disseminated data and, if so, how long before.

Presentation: Free text

32. Education level

ID: EDUCATION_LEV

Description: The highest level of an educational programme the person has successfully completed.

Context: The highest level of an educational programme the person has successfully completed is also called "educational attainment of a person". At international level, the ISCED is the standard classification of educational attainment.

Presentation: CODE LIST

33. Embargo time

ID: EMBARGO_TIME

Description: The exact time at which the data can be made available to the public.

Context: Usually, there is a time span between the finalisation of the production process of statistical data and the moment when the data produced is released and made available to the users. This time span is called "embargo time".

Presentation: Date/time stamp

34. Frequency

ID: FREQ

Description: The time interval at which observations occur over a given time period.

Context: If a data series has a constant time interval between its observations, this interval determines the frequency of the series (e.g. monthly, quarterly, yearly). "Frequency" - also called "periodicity" - may refer to several stages in the production process, e.g. in data collection or in data dissemination. (e.g., a time series could be available at annual frequency but the underlying data are compiled monthly). Therefore, "Frequency" can be broken down into "Frequency - data collection" and "Frequency - data dissemination".
For data messages, the frequency is represented through codes. Any additional detail needed (e.g. "weekly on Thursday") must be inserted as free text within "Frequency detail".

Presentation: CODE LIST: CL_FREQ

Frequency detail

ID: FREQ_DETAIL

Description: A further specification of the frequency to include more detailed information about the type of frequency and frequencies not commonly used.

Context: For data messages, the concept of "frequency" is represented through codes. Any additional detail needed must be inserted as free text within "frequency detail", e.g. weekly on Thursday.

Presentation: Free text

Frequency of data collection

ID: FREQ_COLL

Description: Frequency with which the source data are collected.

Context: The frequencies with which the source data are collected and produced could be different: a time series could be collected from the respondents at quarterly frequency but the data production may have a monthly frequency. The frequency of data collection should therefore be described.

Presentation: CODE LIST: CL_FREQ
Free text

Frequency of dissemination

ID: FREQ_DISS

Description: The time interval at which the statistics are disseminated over a given time period.

Context: The frequencies with which data are released, which could be different from the frequency of data collection.

Presentation: CODE LIST: CL_FREQ
Free text

35. Grossing / Netting

ID: GROSS_NET

Description: Form of consolidation used in presenting the data.

Context: Combinations in which all statistical items are shown for their full values are called "gross" recordings. Combinations whereby the values of some elementary items are offset against items on the other side of the account or which have an opposite sign are called "net" or consolidated recordings.
Individual units or sectors may have the same kind of transactions both as a use and as a resource (e.g., they both pay and receive interest) and the same kind of financial instrument as an asset and as a liability.
Examples of the application of this concept include gross versus net domestic product (GDP less consumption of fixed capital), and various consolidations across units in presentations of statements of operations and balance sheets for general government and for financial corporations, among others.

Presentation: Free text

36. Index type

ID: IND_TYPE

Description: The type of index number used in the statistical production process.

Context: Index type refers to the various indices used in the statistical production process (Laspeyres, modified Laspeyres, Paasche, Value-Added, Fisher, Tornqvist or other indexes). Important features in the construction of an index number are its coverage, base period, weighting system and method of averaging statistical results.

Presentation: CODE LIST
Free text

37. Institutional mandate

ID: INST_MANDATE

Description: Set of rules or other formal set of instructions assigning responsibility as well as the authority to an organisation for the collection, processing, and dissemination of statistics

Context: It also includes arrangements or procedures to facilitate data sharing and coordination between data producing agencies.
This concept can be further broken down into: Institutional mandate - data sharing; Institutional mandate - legal acts and other agreements; Institutional mandate - respondent relations.

Presentation: Free text

Institutional Mandate - data sharing

ID: INST_MAN_SHAR

Description: Arrangements or procedures for data sharing and coordination between data producing agencies.

Presentation: Free text

Institutional Mandate - legal acts and other agreements

ID: INST_MAN_LA_OA

Description: Legal acts or other formal or informal agreements that assign responsibility as well as the authority to an agency for the collection, processing, and dissemination of statistics.

Context: The concept covers provision in law assigning responsibility to specific organizations for collection, processing, and dissemination of statistics in one or several statistical domains. In addition, non-legal measures such as formal or informal administrative arrangements employed to specific organizations for collection, processing, and dissemination of statistics in one or several statistical domains should also be described.

Presentation: Free text

Institutional Mandate - respondent relations

ID: I_M_RES_REL

Description: Measures to encourage statistical reporting and/or to sanction non-reporting.

Context: Provision in law for compulsory reporting of information to the designated agency for statistical purposes. In addition, non-legal measures employed to encourage reporting statistical information to designated agencies should be described.

Presentation: Free text

38. Maintenance agency

ID: M_AGENCY

Description: The organisation or other expert body that maintains a domain-specific data or metadata structure definition.

Presentation: CODE LIST

39. Metadata update

ID: META_UPDATE

Description: The date on which the metadata element was inserted or modified in the database.

Context: The date of the metadata update may refer to the update of a whole metadata set or to the update of any single metadata item. The update can refer to the file update (with or without change in the content) or to the date on which the metadata have been posted on the web.
Correspondingly, this concept can be broken down into: Metadata update - last certified; Metadata update - last posted; Metadata update - last update.

Presentation: Date/time stamp

Metadata last certified

ID: META_CERTIFIED

Description: Date of the latest certification provided by the domain manager to confirm that the metadata posted are still up-to-date, even if the content has not been amended.

Context: In statistical agencies, the domain manager is often asked to certify that the metadata are checked and updated at regular time intervals. The date of the latest certification is to be retained. The concept is relevant for metadata reporting from countries to international organizations within metadata standards initiatives.

Presentation: Date/time stamp

Metadata last posted

ID: META_POSTED

Description: Date of the latest dissemination of the metadata.

Context: The date of the last posting (dissemination) of the metadata on the web site should be retained.

Presentation: Date/time stamp

Metadata last update

ID: META_LAST_UPDATE

Description: Date of last update of the content of the metadata.

Context: The last update of the content of metadata should be retained. The update can concern one single concept, but also the metadata file as a whole. The concept is also relevant for metadata reporting from countries to international organizations within metadata standards initiatives.

Presentation: Date/time stamp

40. Observation

ID: OBS_VALUE

Description: The value of a particular variable at a particular period.

Context: The "observation value" is the field which holds the data.

Presentation: Alphanumeric

41. Observation pre-break value

ID: OBS_PRE_BREAK

Description: The observation, at a time series break period, that was calculated using the old methodology.

Context: At a time series break period, two observations may be recorded: the pre-break value produced on the basis of the old methodology and the post-break value, as measured by the new methodology. SDMX allows for a pre-break value in the case of a series break, where one would use the observation value to show the post-break value.

Presentation: Free text

42. Observation status

ID: OBS_STATUS

Description: Information on the quality of a value or an unusual or missing value.

Context: This item is normally coded and uses codes providing information about the status of a value, with respect to events such as "break", "estimated value", "forecast", "missing value", or "provisional value". In some cases, there is more than one event that may have influenced the value (e.g. a break in methodology may be accompanied with the fact that an observation is an estimate).
A textual comment providing more detailed information on important events related to an observation can be added via the attribute "Comment".

Presentation: CODE LIST: CL_OBS_STATUS
Free text

43. Occupation

ID: OCCUPATION

Description: Job or position held by an individual who performs a set of tasks and duties.

Context: Occupation refers to the type of work done during the reference period by the person employed (or the type of work done previously, if the person is unemployed), irrespective of the industry or the status in employment in which the person should be classified. Occupation is defined in terms of jobs or posts. "Job" is defined by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) as a set of tasks and duties executed, or meant to be executed, by one person. A set of jobs whose main tasks and duties are characterised by a high degree of similarity constitutes an occupation. Persons are classified by occupation through their relationship to a past, present or future job. The international standard for classification of occupations is the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO). Therefore the concept is normally coded.

Presentation: CODE LIST

44. Originator data identifier

ID: ORIG_DATA_ID

Description: The data identifier as found in the originating database.

Context: A unique identifier should enable data producers to recognise the database where the data were stored.

Presentation: Free text

45. Professionalism

ID: PROF

Description: The standard, skill and ability suitable for producing statistics of good quality.

Context: To retain trust in official statistics, the statistical agencies need to decide according to strictly professional considerations, including scientific principles and professional ethics, on the methods and procedures for the collection, processing, storage and presentation of statistical data (Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, principle 2).
"Professionalism" describes the elements providing assurances that: statistics are produced on an impartial basis; elements providing assurances that the choices of sources and statistical techniques as well as decisions about dissemination are informed solely by statistical considerations; elements providing assurances that the recruitment and promotion of staff are based on relevant aptitude; elements providing assurances that the statistical entity is entitled to comment on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics, guidelines for staff behaviour and procedures used to make these guidelines known to staff; other practices that provide assurances of the independence, integrity, and accountability of the statistical agency.
This concept can be further broken down into: Professionalism - code of conduct; Professionalism - impartiality; Professionalism - methodology; Professionalism - statistical commentary.

Presentation: Free text

Professionalism - code of conduct

ID: PROF_COND

Description: Provision for assuring the qualifications of staff and allowing staff to perform their functions without intervention motivated by non-statistical objectives.

Context: Description of policies promoting the recruitment and promotion of staff based on relevant aptitude; providing guidelines for staff behaviour and procedures to make these guidelines known to staff; and prescribing other practices that provide assurances of the independence, integrity, and accountability of the statistical agency.

Presentation: Free text

Professionalism - impartiality

ID: PROF_IMP

Description: Description of the elements providing assurances that statistics are produced on an impartial basis.

Presentation: Free text

Professionalism - methodology

ID: PROF_METH

Description: Describes the elements providing assurances that the choices of sources and statistical techniques as well as decisions about dissemination are informed solely by statistical considerations.

Presentation: Free text

Professionalism - statistical commentary

ID: PROF_STAT_COM

Description: Describes the elements providing assurances that the statistical entity is entitled to comment on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics.

Presentation: Free text

46. Punctuality

ID: PUNCTUALITY

Description: Time lag between the actual delivery of the data and the target date when it should have been delivered.

Context: Punctuality may be calculated, for instance, with reference to target dates announced in an official release calendar, laid down by regulations or previously agreed among partners.
In quality assessment, punctuality is often associated with timeliness, which refers to the time lag between the end of the reference period and the release of data.

Presentation: Free text

47. Quality management

ID: QUALITY_MGMNT

Description: Systems and frameworks in place within an organisation to manage the quality of statistical products and processes.

Context: "Quality management" refers to the application of a formalised system that documents the structure, responsibilities and procedures put in place for satisfying users, while continuing to improve the data production and dissemination process. It also includes how well the resources meet the requirement.
This concept can be broken down into: "Quality management - quality assurance"; "Quality management - assessment"; "Quality management - documentation".

Presentation: Free text

Quality assessment

ID: QUALITY_ASSMNT

Description: Overall assessment of data quality, based on standard quality criteria.

Context: The overall assessment of data quality may include the result of a scoring or grading process for quality. Scoring may be quantitative or qualitative.

Presentation: Free text

Quality assurance

ID: QUALITY_ASSURE

Description: Guidelines focusing on quality in general and dealing with quality of statistical programmes, including measures for ensuring the efficient use of resources.

Context: "Quality assurance" refers to all the planned and systematic activities implemented that can be demonstrated to provide confidence that the data production processes will fulfil the requirements for the statistical output. This includes the design of programmes for quality management, the description of planning process, scheduling of work, frequency of plan updates, and other organisational arrangements to support and maintain planning function.

Presentation: Free text

Quality documentation

ID: QUALITY_DOC

Description: Documentation on procedures applied for quality management and quality assessment.

Context: It contains a documentation of methods and standards for assessing data quality, based on standard quality criteria such as relevance, accuracy and reliability, timeliness and punctuality, accessibility and clarity, comparability, and coherence.

Presentation: Free text

48. Recording basis

ID: RECORDING

Description: Processes and standards employed in calculating statistical aggregates.

Context: The recording of transactions covers a broad range of processes and accounting conventions, including types of valuation, prices, conversion rates, the accounting basis, units of measurement used in data collection, etc. It also refers to descriptions of the time of recording (e.g. cash or accrual basis) employed. The description may also include how consistent the practices used are with internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices.

Presentation: CODE LIST
Free text

49. Reference area

ID: REF_AREA

Description: The country or geographic area to which the measured statistical phenomenon relates.

Context: The concept refers to the country, geographical or political group of countries or regions within a country.
The concept is subject to a variety of hierarchies, as countries comprise territorial entities that are States (as understood by international law and practice), regions and other territorial entities that are not States (such as Hong Kong) but for which statistical data are produced internationally on a separate and independent basis.

Presentation: CODE LIST: CL_AREA
Free text

50. Reference period

ID: REF_PERIOD

Description: The period of time or point in time to which the measured observation is intended to refer.

Context: In many cases, the reference period and time period will be identical, but there are also cases where they are different. This can happen if data are not available for the target reference period, but are available for a time period which is judged to be sufficiently close. For example, the reference period may be a calendar year, whereas data may only be available for a fiscal year. In such cases, “reference period” should refer to the target reference period rather than the actual time period of the data. The difference between target and actual reference period can be highlighted in a free text note.

Presentation: Date/time stamp
Free text

Reference period - weights

ID: REF_PER_WGTS

Description: Dates or periods to which the observations used to compile the weights refer.

Context: Concept relevant for index numbers and transformations such as “GDP at constant prices”.

Presentation: Free text

51. Release policy

ID: REL_POLICY

Description: Rules for disseminating statistical data to interested parties.

Context: Describes the policy for release of the data to the public, how the public is informed that the data are being released, and whether the data are disseminated to all interested parties at the same time.
This concept can be broken down into: Release policy - legal acts and other agreements; Release policy - policy commentary; Release policy - release calendar; Release policy - release calendar access; Release policy - transparency; Release policy - user access.

Presentation: Free text

Release calendar

ID: REL_CAL_POLICY

Description: The schedule of statistical release dates.

Context: An advance release calendar is the schedule for release of data, which is publicly disseminated so as to provide prior notice of the precise release dates on which a national statistical agency, other national agency, or international organisation undertakes to release a specified statistical information to the public. Such information may be provided for statistical releases in the coming week, month, quarter or year.

Presentation: Free text

Release calendar access

ID: REL_CAL_ACCESS

Description: Access to the release calendar information.

Context: This describes how the release calendar can be accessed. A hyperlink should be provided if available.

Presentation: Free text

Release policy - commentary

ID: REL_COMMENT

Description: Description of whether or not a ministerial commentary is provided on the occasion of statistical release.

Context: This concept relates to policy commentary that other authorities might add to the data released to the public.

Presentation: Free text

Release policy - legal acts and other agreements

ID: REL_POL_LEG_ACTS

Description: Legal acts and other agreements pertaining to data access.

Context: Description of the legal and institutional framework defining which users have access to what data, on what conditions, and on what time schedule.

Presentation: Free text

Release policy - transparency

ID: REL_POL_TRA

Description: Dissemination of the release policy to the public.

Context: It concerns whether the description of the release policy is disseminated to the public and by which modality, but not the description of the release policy itself.

Presentation: Free text

Release policy - user access

ID: REL_POL_US_AC

Description: The policy for release of the data to users, the scope of dissemination (e.g. to the public, to selected users), how users are informed that the data are being released, and whether the policy determines the dissemination of statistical data to all users.

Presentation: CODE LIST
Free text

52. Relevance

ID: RELEVANCE

Description: The degree to which statistical information meets the real or perceived needs of clients.

Context: Relevance is concerned with whether the available information sheds light on the issues that are important to users. Assessing relevance is subjective and depends upon the varying needs of users. The Agency's challenge is to weight and balance the conflicting needs of current and potential users to produce statistics that satisfy the most important needs within given resource constraints. In assessing relevance, one approach is to gauge relevance directly, by polling users about the data. Indirect evidence of relevance may be found by ascertaining where there are processes in place to determine the uses of data and the views of their users or to use the data in-house for research and other analysis. Relevance refers to the processes for monitoring the relevance and practical usefulness of existing statistics in meeting users" needs and how these processes impact the development of statistical programmes.
This concept can be broken down into: "Relevance - completeness"; "Relevance - user needs"; "Relevance - user satisfaction".

Presentation: Free text

Completeness

ID: COMPLETENESS

Description: The extent to which all statistics that are needed are available.

Context: The measurement of the availability of statistics normally refers to data sets and compares the required data set to the available one.

Presentation: Free text

Relevance - user needs

ID: USER_NEEDS

Description: Description of users and their respective needs with respect to the statistical data.

Context: With respect to the statistical data to be provided, the main users (e.g. official authorities, the public or others) and user needs should be stated, e.g. official authorities with the needs for policy indicators, national users, etc.

Presentation: Free text

Relevance - user satisfaction

ID: USER_SAT

Description: Measures to determine user satisfaction.

Context: User satisfaction concerns how well the disseminated statistics meet the expressed user needs. If user satisfaction surveys have been conducted, the domain manager should mention them. Otherwise, any other indication or measure to determine user satisfaction might be used.

Presentation: Free text

53. Reporting agency

ID: REP_AGENCY

Description: The organisation that supplies the data for a given instance of the statistics.

Presentation: CODE LIST

54. Sampling

ID: SAMPLING

Description: The process of selecting a number of cases from all the cases in a particular group or universe.

Context: Refers to information on sample design, sample size, sample frame, sample updating, etc.

Presentation: Free text

55. Sex

ID: SEX

Description: The state of being male or female.

Context: This concept is applied if data needs to be categorised by sex. The concept is in general coded, i.e. represented through a code list.

Presentation: CODE LIST: CL_SEX

56. Source data

ID: SOURCE_TYPE

Description: Characteristics and components of the raw statistical data used for compiling statistical aggregates.

Context: The type of source, including whether it is a statistical or non-statistical source, and any relevant characteristics (e.g. sample size for survey data, or characteristics of administrative data) should be mentioned.

Presentation: Free text

57. Statistical concepts and definitions

ID: STAT_CONC_DEF

Description: Statistical characteristics of statistical observations.

Context: "Statistical concepts and definitions" refers to the definition of the statistical concept under measure (i.e. the statistical domain) and the main variables provided.
The type of variable provided (raw figures, annual growth rates, index, flow or stock data,...) should be defined and described referring to internationally accepted statistical standards, guidelines, or good practices on which the concepts and definitions that are used for compiling the statistics are based.
A "coded" statistical concept takes values from a code list of valid values. An "uncoded" statistical concept takes its values as free form text (e.g. time series title).

Presentation: Free text

58. Statistical population

ID: STAT_POP

Description: The total membership or population or "universe" of a defined class of people, objects or events.

Context: There are two types of population: target population and survey population. A "target population" is the population outlined in the survey objects about which information is to be sought and a "survey population" is the population from which information is obtained in a survey. The target population is also known as the scope of the survey and the survey population as the coverage of the survey. For administrative data sources, the corresponding populations are the "target population", as defined by the relevant legislation and regulations, and the actual "client population" ("United Nations Glossary of Classification Terms" prepared by the Expert Group on International Economic and Social Classifications).

Presentation: Free text

59. Statistical unit

ID: STAT_UNIT

Description: Entity for which information is sought and for which statistics are ultimately compiled.

Context: The statistical unit is the object of a statistical survey and the bearer of statistical characteristics. These units can, in turn, be divided into observation units and analytical units.
Statistical units for economic statistics are defined on the basis of three criteria: 1) Legal, accounting or organisational criteria; 2) Geographical criteria; 3) Activity criteria. Statistical units comprise the enterprise, enterprise group, kind-of-activity unit (KAU), local unit, establishment, homogeneous unit of production, persons, households, geographical areas, events etc.
Statistical units can be categorised into basic statistical units, i.e. those for which data is collected, and derived statistical units, i.e. those which are constructed during the statistical production process. A basic statistical unit is the most detailed level to which the obtained characteristics can be attached.

Presentation: Free text

60. Time format

ID: TIME_FORMAT

Description: Technical format in which time is represented for the measured phenomenon.

Context: The technical time format and its related code list are part of the technical standards for SDMX-EDI and SDMX-XML.

Presentation: CODE LIST: CL_TIME_FORMAT

61. Time period

ID: TIME_PERIOD

Description: The period of time or point in time to which the measured observation refers.

Context: The measurement represented by each observation corresponds to a specific point in time (e.g. a single day) or a period (e.g. a month, a fiscal year, or a calendar year). This is used as a time stamp and is of particular importance for time series data. In cases where the actual time period of the data differs from the target reference period, “time period” refers to the actual period.

Presentation: Date/time stamp

Time period - collection

ID: TIME_PER_COLLECT

Description: Dates or periods during which the observations have been collected (such as middle, average or end of period) to compile the indicator for the target reference period.

Presentation: CODE LIST
Free text

62. Timeliness

ID: TIMELINESS

Description: Length of time between data availability and the event or phenomenon they describe

Context: Timeliness refers to the speed of data availability, whether for dissemination or for further processing, and it is measured with respect to the time lag between the end of the reference period and the release of data. Timeliness is a crucial element of data quality: adequate timeliness corresponds to a situation where policy-makers can take informed decisions in time for achieving the targeted results. In quality assessment, timeliness is often associated with punctuality, which refers to the time lag between the release date of data and the target date announced in some official release calendar. Timeliness can be further broken down into "Timeliness - output" and "Timeliness - source data".

Presentation: Free text

Timeliness - output

ID: TIME_OUTPUT

Description: The lapse of time between the end of a reference period and dissemination of the data.

Context: Timeliness of statistical outputs is the time lag between the end of the reference period and the release of a certain version of the data: provisional, preliminary, or final results. "Timeliness - output" reflects many factors, including some that are related to institutional arrangements, such as the preparation of accompanying commentary and printing. Usually, data are not released immediately at the end of the period they refer to, since data collection, data processing and data dissemination work needs to be performed.

Presentation: Free text

Timeliness - source data

ID: TIME_SOURCE

Description: The time between the end of a reference period and actual receipt of the data by the compiling agency.

Context: Compared to the parent concept - timeliness - this concept only covers the time period between the end of the reference period and the receipt of the data by the data compiling agency. This time period is determined by factors such as delays reflecting the institutional arrangements for data transmission.

Presentation: Free text

63. Title

ID: TITLE

Description: Textual label used as identification of a statistical object.

Context: "Title" is a short name describing and identifying a statistical object it is attached to.
IN SDMX, a title can be referred, for example, to a time series as a "time series title", or to a group as a "group title". A list of ID broken down by attachment level is therefore needed: TITLE_TS, or TITLE_GRP.

Presentation: Free text

64. Unit multiplier

ID: UNIT_MULT

Description: Exponent in base 10 specified so that multiplying the observation numeric values by 10^UNIT_MULT gives a value expressed in the unit of measure.

Context: In some data bases, it is referred to as SCALE, MAGNITUDE or POWER, e.g. "UM=6" means that observations are in millions.

Presentation: CODELIST: CL_UNIT_MULT

65. Unit of measure

ID: UNIT_MEASURE

Description: The unit in which the data values are measured.

Context: The unit of measure is a quantity or increment by which something is counted or described, such as kg, mm, °C, °F, monetary units such as Euro or US dollar, simple number counts or index numbers. The unit of measure has a type (e.g. currency) and, in connection with the unit multiplier, provides the level of detail for the value of the variable (e.g. Euro, 1000 Euro).
For data messages, the concept is always represented by codes. Any additional detail needed must be inserted as free text within "unit of measure detail".

Presentation: CODE LIST
Free text

Unit of measure detail

ID: UNIT_MEAS_DETAIL

Description: Additional textual information on the unit of measure.

Context: For data messages, as the concept of "unit of measure" is represented through codes, additional details must be inserted as free text within "unit of measure detail".

Presentation: Free text

66. Valuation

ID: VALUATION

Description: The definition of the price per unit, for goods and services flows and asset stocks.

Context: Standard national accounts valuations include the basic price (what the seller receives) and the purchaser's price (what the purchaser pays). The purchaser's price is the basic price, plus taxes less subsidies on products, plus invoiced transportation and insurance services, plus distribution margin. Other valuation bases may be used in other contexts. International trade in goods considers the free on board (fob) price and cost-insurance-freight price, among others.
The concept refers to valuation rules used for recording flows and stocks, including how consistent the practices used are with internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices.

Presentation: CODE LIST
Free text