

SDMX 3.0: a new chapter in the global exchange of statistical data

Luca Gramaglia¹; David Barraclough²; Edgardo Greising³; Abdulla Gozalov⁴

- ¹ European Commission Eurostat
- ² Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
- International Labour Organisation (ILO)
- ⁴ United Nations Statistics Division

Abstract:

SDMX, which stands for Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange, is an international initiative sponsored by seven international organisations (Bank for International Settlements, European Central Bank, Eurostat, International Monetary Fund, Organisation for Economic Collaboration and Development, United Nations and World Bank). SDMX aims at standardising and industrialising the mechanisms and processes for the exchange of statistical data and metadata among international organisations and their member countries.

The SDMX standard was initially designed with a focus on the exchange of aggregate, timeseries data, and has been successfully applied over the past decade to facilitate the exchange of such data in various contexts, and in particular for the global exchange of key macroeconomic statistics. However, the past years have seen an increase in the number and variety of use cases for the global exchange of data and metadata. In order to better address these new use cases, the SDMX Sponsor organisations are preparing to release a new version of the standard, SDMX 3.0.

The paper will provide an overview of the traditional use cases for the global exchange of statistical data and metadata exchange and of the new challenges or application scenarios that have become prominent in recent years. The paper will then detail how the new version of the SDMX standard plans to address these new challenges. The paper will provide concrete examples of how SDMX 3.0 would address these challenges based on concrete examples from current implementation projects (e.g. the use of SDMX for the global exchange of Sustainable Development Goals indicators).

Keywords:

SDMX; standardisation; metadata; Sustainable Development Goals