Report of the SDMX Technical Working Group (SDMX-TWG)

SDMX Global Conference
October/November 2023
Presented by Edgardo Greising, ILO
Provide the forum for an active participation of the SDMX User Community (statistical offices, central banks and other national and international organisations dealing with statistics) in the management and development of the SDMX Technical Standards.
Technology Compatibility Kit (TCK)

- **Scope**: toolkit for testing SDMX Rest web service implementation for compatibility with the SDMX standard

- **Status**
  - **Official release**: v3.4.0 supporting SDMX 2.1 up to REST API v1.4
  - **Under testing**: structure management SDMX 3.0 ready
  - **Under development**: data management SDMX 3.0
  - **Next**: full SDMX 3.0 support
Technology Compatibility Kit (TCK)

- How to learn more:
  - GitHub - sdmx-twg/sdmx-tck: Certify the compliance and coverage of RESTful SDMX web services
  - Sdmx.org (soon)
  - Sdmx.io (under construction)
Validation & Transformation Language (VTL)

- **Scope**: ‘technology-neutral’ standard language for defining validation and transformation rules for any kind of statistical data composed by a set of operators, their syntax and semantics.

- **Status**:  
  - **Official release**: VTL 2.0 released in July 2018
Validation & Transformation Language (VTL)

- **Under development:**
  - VTL 2.1 (bug fixing, minor changes and new operators)
  - New format for documentation to improve readability, reduce inconsistencies and automatically generate VTL grammar

- **Outlook:**
  - TCK planned (four tool-implementing groups currently working)
  - Collaboration initiatives ongoing with several international organizations
- **Scope**: Holistic review of action syntax to manage data and metadata
  - Better terms (‘Merge’ instead of ‘Append’)
  - Specific new features to manage reference metadata and intentionally missing values
  - HTTP action verbs for structures and for data
  - Deprecation of features not anymore needed

- **Status**: 
  - Released in May 2023
Presentation layer metadata

- **Scope**: new SDMX artefacts to define additional metadata (presentational, processing, ...) instead of current usage of annotations, for greater flexibility and better validations

- **Status**: two options being discussed, both to support custom metadata (not just presentational).
  - One option makes use of the existing reference metadata capability
  - Second option is to support custom structure definitions

- **Outlook**: Paper discussing the merits of each option is being prepared for the next physical TWG meeting in December
**Scope:** Global service to assure uniqueness of SDMX artefacts, allow their discovery and ease their sharing

**Status:** Early PoC in place

- Model to register and retrieve all SDMX endpoints (SDMX REST web services) containing the original artefact versions maintained by agencies

**Outlook:**

- Update the SGDS model according to the SDMX IM
- Prepare appropriate formats for sharing the information
- Develop an API for requesting information
- Update the PoC
Thank you!
Contact: twg@sdmx.org

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