9th SDMX Global Conference – Empowering Data Communities

October 29th to 2nd November 2023

Summary Report

Introduction

The SDMX Global Conference is a biennial event for the official statistics community to share experiences, best practices, projects and information on recent and upcoming developments in the field of national and international statistical data and metadata exchange.

The 9th Conference was held from 29th October to 2nd November 2023 in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The event was co-organised by the SDMX Sponsors and the Bahrain Information & eGovernment Authority (iGA) with the support of UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and Banca d'Italia, and successfully brought together a broad range of stakeholders from national, regional, and international agencies, academia, and the private sector.

The theme of the 2023 programme was "Empowering Data Communities" and explored how SDMX tools and technologies can be leveraged to enhance collaboration and knowledge sharing.

The programme was split into two parts:

- Days 1, 2 and 3 – plenary sessions including a keynote speech, special addresses, presentations and panel discussions;
- Days 4 and 5 – SDMX capacity building with separate tracks focusing on learning outcomes for beginners and more advanced practitioners.

For the first time an SDMX 'virtual hackathon' was held during the lead-up to the Conference which set the challenge to develop an open-source dynamic dashboard for visualising SDMX data. Several excellent submissions were received with the top two selected as joint winners by the judging panel. The results were announced during the Conference opening session.

The event attracted significant worldwide interest with more than 550 people registering to participate. Approximately 230 attended in person with others watching the plenary sessions remotely on YouTube live stream, and on catchup.

This report provides a summary of the key outcomes from the plenary sessions.

Opening Session

Chaired by Rafael Schmidt, BIS and chair of the SDMX Secretariat

The conference was launched by Mr. Mohamed Al Qaed, Chief Executive for the Information & eGovernment Authority who welcomed the participants attending both in person and remotely. Mr Al Qaed highlighted the importance of timely and comprehensive statistics in both the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and the instrumental role of SDMX in enabling that effort.

In his special address, Mr. Rasheed Mohammed Al Maraj, Governor, Central Bank of Bahrain underscored the conference's theme on empowering data communities stressing the Bank's role in ensuring data accuracy within the financial sector. He concluded by emphasising the Bank's commitment to maintaining data quality, integrity, and collaboration with various international bodies for enhancing data exchange and management. Dr. Fahad Aldossari, President of the Saudi Arabia General Authority for Statistics similarly acknowledging the collaborative efforts in improving the quality and exchange of statistical data and emphasised the commitment of the General Authority for Statistics of Saudi Arabia to enhance data collection, utilisation of innovative sources, and ongoing development to support sustainable statistical practices on a global scale.

Representing the SDMX Sponsors, Bert Kroese, Director of Statistics and Chief Statistician, International Monetary Fund (IMF) set out the business case for adopting SDMX highlighting the pressures to modernise the official statistics and the benefits that SDMX brings to that effort. In particular: industrialisation of statistics with common tools, processes and language support, efficiency through automation, and the open-source and community collaboration model which reduces costs and improves access to support and training for all.

To conclude the opening session, Eric Anvar, Head of Smart Data, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) gave the Conference's keynote speech on 'why SDMX matters' emphasising the standard's pivotal role as an enabler for modernising the collection, compilation, production, dissemination and consumption of statistics and embracing emerging technologies including AI and 'data mesh'.

Session 1: New techniques and technologies for SDMX

Chaired by Marco Marini, IMF

The session on "New techniques and technologies for SDMX" highlighted how AI and other digital advancements are reshaping the way we collect, process, and utilise data, and how this, in turn, has profound implications for SDMX. Presenters included Jeff Danforth (IMF) and Ilya Gorelik (EPAM), Muneera Salem Al-Buainain (University of Bahrain), Yves Jaques (UNICEF), Alessandro Benedetti (Sease Ltd.), and Jehangir Amjad (Google Data Commons) and Luis Gonzalez (UNSD). Thanks to its well-defined formats for data and metadata, SDMX is well suited for integration with other standards The presentations showcased various projects on integration of SDMX with Artificial

Intelligence, Natural Language Processing, and other cutting-edge technologies. Generative AI tools such as ChatGPT can be combined with SDMX artefacts to search and retrieve data using natural language queries. The session also highlighted an increasing interest of private companies to leverage SDMX as a standard to improve data accessibility and discovery, including Google Data Commons. It was also noted that it is not so easy to implement solutions that perform well with no risk of hallucination, as questions with non-technical jargons or complex statistical terms may not be well defined in metadata structures. A panel discussion on the role of AI for SDMX concluded the session with an emphasis on forming collaborations between organisations (both public and private) that are working on similar initiatives.

Session 2: Innovation in SDMX visualisation

Chaired by Eric Anvar, OECD

The “Innovation in SDMX visualisation” session covered various aspects of how SDMX metadata can drive data visualisation: DASH-SDMX Dashboard generator (Daniele Olivotti, UNICEF), SDMX-Driven dissemination portal (Bianca Ligani, BIS), Democratising data: How to empower users with new and existing SDMX connectors (David Barraclough, OECD, and Ruth Pozuelo Martinez, Curbal), Geo-enabling SDMX with ArcGIS (Kate Hess, ESRI) and SDMX Innovation: Enhancing data value (Taweesap Srikwan, National Statistical Office of Thailand – TNSO). Insightful data visualisation and good data user experience continue to be high priorities and challenges for many statistical organisations, to meet the demand of an ever-expanding scope of data users. The presenters introduced great examples of SDMX-based solutions – dashboards, charts and tables, data exploration and search. From different angles, they illustrated how good results can be achieved in terms of simplicity in the use and efficiency in the process, drawing on the rich metadata SDMX offers. The SDMX standard API and semantics indeed offer the opportunity to build reusable solutions – whether open source or commercial, or combination of both – as well as build custom solutions to meet organisation-specific requirements. With the important addition of advanced geospatial features in the context of SDMX 3.0, SDMX data will become even easier to integrate in future geo-portals.

Session 3: Integrating SDMX in the statistical value chain

Chaired by Chaired by Rochelle O’Hagan, World Bank Group

The “Integrating SDMX in the statistical value chain” session looked in detail at the role of SDMX in the production of statistical data products.

Almir Delic, European Central Bank (ECB) introduced the concept of SDMX metadata-driven DataOps demonstrating how it can be used to deliver a flexible and automated data science platform integrating formerly siloed data teams and systems. Dr Juan Muñoz (INEGI) continued the discourse on a similar theme exploring the Transversal IT Platform approach and concluding that the SDMX information model provides the metadata artefacts needed for driving the entire data lifecycle.

The release of version 3.0 in 2021 extended SDMX's capabilities to cover microdata. Presentations by Luca Gramaglia (Eurostat) and Stratos Nikoloutsos and Olivier Sirello (BIS) reflected on the practical application of SDMX for microdata use cases noting that many issues that made modelling microdata challenging in earlier versions of the standard have now been resolved.

Python is a popular and important tool in statistics production and data science. Antonio Olleros and Javier Hernandez (Meaningful Data) outlined practical ways for Python users to work with SDMX data and metadata using the open-source SDMXthon Python library.

Bianca Ligani (BIS) concluded the session by reporting on the BIS experiences developing a data structure definition for property prices noting that a draft definition should be agreed by the end of 2023 followed by pilot transmissions before finalisation by 2025.

Session 4: Using SDMX with other standards

Chaired by Alessandro Bonara, ECB

The topic of using SDMX with other standards first examined general challenges and benefits before focusing on the integration of SDMX with the Validation and Transformation Language (VTL) – a standard language for defining data validation and transformation rules.

General considerations on the integration of SDMX with other standards:

Arofan Gregory (IUSSP-CODATA Working Group) presented a report on SDMX and FAIR Vocabularies, describing the findings of an 18-month project sponsored by IUSSP and CODATA involving many SDMX participants in a discussion of aligning controlled vocabularies in demography. A proposal was made to introduce minor changes to SDMX to better align the dissemination of concepts, codelists and other controlled vocabularies with the FAIR data principles. Glenn Tice (BIS) shared his view on the main SDMX benefits and explored further the business case for SDMX, as outlined by Bert Kroese (IMF) in the Conference opening session. He presented a detailed assessment of the efficiency potential available to institutions from employing SDMX internally as the data and metadata management standard for statistics production. The presentation concluded that SDMX can help to reduce institutions' internal friction by breaking down data and metadata silos but may work best blended with other standards such as DDI and XBRL/DPM.

Integration of SDMX and the Validation and Transformation Language (VTL):

Franck Cotton (INSEE) presented INSEE's metadata strategy and how SDMX is used in an active way, in combination with other standards, along the statistical process. For example, for the construction of a statistical register of individuals and dwellings, structural metadata of input administrative files are created in DDI and used to automatically generate VTL rules that verify the conformance of the data. This results in important improvements in terms of reliability and quality of the process. Antonio Olleros

(Meaningful Data) and José Vereecken (National Bank of Belgium – NBB) showed how the NBB is integrating VTL in its new SDMX-based and integrated solution for Statistics. The project, named SALSA, is based on the .Stat Suite, and leverages Meaningful Data's VTL Suite for early validation of data and calculation of new data. The migration of validations to VTL has implied the translation of existing validations rules in non-standard formats to VTL. It demonstrates that VTL is able to deal with all validation in a very efficient way, providing a business-friendly language that establishes relationships between business concepts, making validations easier to understand and to maintain. Valentino Pinna (Banca d'Italia) concluded the session by reporting that VTL is gaining significant traction and proving an excellent tool to address statistical meta/data operations, with renewed governance and a community that is growing by the day. Banca d'Italia together with other organisations and vendors are eager to support the community in adopting VTL and realising the benefits of its integration with SDMX.

Session 5: SDMX data governance and management

Chaired by David Barraclough, OECD, and Luca Gramaglia, Eurostat

The "SDMX data governance and management" session focused on how the SDMX standard can contribute to improving data governance and data management within organisations which produce or disseminate statistical data. The invited speakers showed how the reference framework for SDMX structural metadata governance, recently published by the SDMX Statistical Working Group, can be used to implement appropriate data governance processes within national and international organisations. They also showcased examples of how certain features of the SDMX information model can help solve or alleviate common structural metadata management issues.

The subsequent discussions emphasised that the most appropriate governance model for each organisation depends on each organisation's specific goals, and that one major benefit the SDMX standard can provide is the provision of a common vocabulary, framework and processes to underpin data governance discussions between different stakeholders within an organisation.

Session 6: SDMX partnerships and cooperation

Chaired by Edgardo Greising, International Labour Organisation (ILO)

The "SDMX partnerships and cooperation" session consisted of four presentations. The first one presented "sdmx.io", a new site recently launched by the BIS that will centralise the distribution of tools and learning resources for the SDMX community with a focus on interoperability and easy adoption. Interoperability was also the key word in the two following presentations, showing the use cases of the BIS partnerships with the Statistical Information System Collaboration Community (SIS-CC) to make FMR work seamlessly with ".Stat Suite" at the National Bank of Belgium, and BIS with IMF to make FMR the Registry for "SDMX Central" application.

The last presentation by FAO presented the findings from the SIS-CC SDMX Tools Assessment Working Group (STAWG) that analysed the level of interoperability of the most common SDMX tools used in the SIS-CC.

The main conclusion arising from this session is that the adoption of SDMX as a strategy for data modelling, storing, and publishing rather than just a data exchange protocol, facilitates interoperability and is fostering the collaboration among tools' developers and users.

Session 7: Implementation of SDMX and lessons learnt

Chaired by Yves Jaques, UNICEF, and Mr. Ayman Fouad Al Ansari, Chief IT Project Governance, Governance & Enterprise Architecture Directorate, iGA

The "implementation of SDMX and lessons learned" session presenters reflected the amazing diversity of the agencies that have implemented SDMX as part of their data management strategy.

The first three speakers focused on how SDMX intersects with the Sustainable Development goals from global and regional perspectives, with interesting contributions from the work of UN Statistics Division (UNSD), ESCWA, and the Gulf Corporation Council Statistical Office, who have used varying tools and solutions to solve data management challenges over the same standard. A real show of the strength of standards-based approaches. The presentations then moved on to SDMX implementation at a national and multi-sectoral level, with presentations from the Maldives Bureau of Statistics, and the Reserve Bank of India.

The second half of the session move from a process to a more product perspective, with data migration and data engineering experiences brought to us by OECD and ISTAT. This was followed by the South Pacific Commission's work with SDMX and "create once publish everywhere" approaches, before finishing with an interesting focus on maintenance and localisation/computer-assisted translation work from ECB and UNSD.

As long-standing proponents of data management and data governance approaches, the co-chairs Ayman Fouad Mahmood Al-Ansari and Yves Jaques were very encouraged to see the variety and sophistication of the approaches across geographies and domains.

Session 8: Current and future development of the SDMX standard

Chaired by Nadezhda Vlahova, Eurostat

The "current and future development of the SDMX standard" explored the latest developments, adoption, and planned work around the SDMX standard. On the technical front, presented by the SDMX TWG, a tool for assessing the coverage and compliance of SDMX Rest web service implementation (SDMX-TCK) has been released and a new version of VTL (VTL 2.1) is under preparation. Other new items which the

group is currently working on include presentation layer metadata and the SDMX Global Discovery Service. On the methodological side, driven by the SDMX-SWG, a number of guidelines are under preparation, including on vintages, creation and management of codelists and ontologies for SDMX. Results from a survey on the adoption of SDMX and use of SDMX tooling among the central banks, presented by the BIS, outlined the relevance of SDMX within the reporting and production processes as 80% of central banks who responded indicated they are using or implementing SDMX. The survey also provided a comprehensive overview on factors influencing the adoption of SDMX and usage of SDMX tools. This session concluded with a presentation from the OECD giving us an overview of a modelling and harmonisation exercise led by the Unit of Measure Working Group under SDMX-SWG in order to correspond to the needs of the community and ensure the evolution of the standard.

Session 9: SDMX capacity building initiatives

Chaired by Abdulla Gozalov, UNSD, and Jonathan Challener, OECD

The final session “SDMX capacity building initiatives” jointly chaired by OECD and UNSD, focused on SDMX capacity building opening with an overview of currently available, as well as upcoming, capacity building resources. These resources, focused more on e-learning courses, cover an increasingly broad range of topics and include those produced by the Asian Development Bank, UNSD, BIS, OECD, and others. This was followed by a live SWOT poll of the audience that aimed to gather feedback on the current strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (or challenges) for the SDMX Community regarding SDMX training.

Three presentations followed, first the OECD shared how they are Lowering the entry barrier to SDMX for data producers through the .Stat Academy, an initiative of the SIS-CC that supports capacity building for the .Stat Suite and SDMX data modelling. The .Stat Academy is a self-paced online learning hub with certification. The learning is carried out through webinars, training courses, showcases, and documentation.

The African Development Bank presented its project Africa Information Highway (AIH). SDMX, including capacity building and technical assistance on the subject, play an important role in AIH’s strategy. A hybrid approach is used for capacity building featuring both remote training and country missions, while sub-regional hubs are used to provide further support and training to countries.

The third and final presentation was given by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on the SDMX Tools e-learning course, developed by ADB in collaboration with UNSD, SIAP, and ESCAP, with comments from the BIS and ILO. The e-learning course provides an overview and demonstrations of how three widely used tools – SDMX Constructor, Fusion Metadata Registry, and SDMX Converter – can be used in support of common scenarios and SDMX use cases.

Following the presentations, a short Q&A session was held, along with the results of the SWOT analysis presented as briefly summarised below:

Strengths The analysis shows that there are a growing number of accessible online learning resources, including with certification, available. Many of these courses are free with short modules that can be taken in less than a day. The trainings on offer target all kind of job profiles (from data users to SDMX experts). Furthermore, the open-source and free to access tools allows users to learn by practicing with no need of purchasing software license.

Weaknesses The development of training is not well coordinated across organisations and there maybe duplication that can also create some incoherence between the different materials. It is also difficult to know what training exists and how to find it with courses and resources distributed across different platforms. The issue of trainings provided in multiple languages was also a common theme in responses as well as a lack of a comprehensive SDMX certification program that helps individuals build that into their job profile.

Opportunities Greater coordination in the development of trainings with a standardised and recognised accreditation and learning paths to get certifications (data modeler, producer, steward …). Promote peer learning through the user forum as well as access to mentors to help people alongside the trainings. Better support the learning needs of data scientists and data engineers as well developers of tools, perhaps through sdmx.io. Create a central repository listing all available and upcoming training resources.

Threats Despite the growing number of resources the SDMX community is still moving slowly in the area of capacity building with a need to better understand the audience including the data producer segment that covers a number of variant profiles with possibly different needs. This was also reflected in a number of respondents that indicated it can be intimidating and often complex for beginners to get started as training is not tailored for a wider audience.

Closing Session

Chaired by Rafael Schmidt, BIS and chair of the SDMX Secretariat

The closing panel session chaired by Rafael Schmidt reflected on the key learnings from the three days of presentations and discussions and examined the community's aspirations for the future of SDMX at this time of enormous technological and social change.

Responding to the question of the most significant takeaways from the Conference, Abdulla Gozalov (UNSD) emphasised that SDMX is a remarkable enabler, particularly when it comes to its alignment with artificial intelligence, automated metadata translation, and data governance. He noted that, contrary to some perceptions, the presentations demonstrated that SDMX simplifies complex data management and makes data governance more manageable.

Alessandro Bonara (ECB) delved into the challenges posed by the increasing volumes and types of data, highlighting the need for SDMX to remain agile. In particular, the importance of adapting the SDMX framework to handle cloud data, big data and data lakes ensuring that it continues to remain relevant in an evolving data landscape.

Edgardo Greising (ILO) advocated for greater collaboration and unity within the SDMX community, focusing on interoperability and the value of the social capital in maintaining the vibrancy and dynamism of the community. He suggested the creation of a dedicated working group to enhance communication and capacity building.

Eric Anvar (OECD) underscored the need to nurture the social capital within the SDMX community and encouraged a shift towards a more user-centric approach. He also suggested aligning academic curricula with SDMX technologies to prepare the next generation of data professionals.

Marco Marini (IMF) brought the discussion to the importance of SDMX's adaptability of the ever-evolving data landscape. He emphasised the role of innovation and data governance and how SDMX can provide a foundation for trusted data. In response to an audience question, Marco suggested focusing on user-centric applications to improve data dissemination, which can attract more stakeholders, including the private sector.

Dr. Khalid Almutawah (Kingdom of Bahrain iGA) shared insights into the adoption of SDMX in the GCC area, highlighting the need for structural reform and curriculum adjustments to support SDMX technologies. He stressed the importance of defining roles and responsibilities in organisations working with SDMX.

Rafael Schmidt concluded by highlighting the significance of SDMX in the world of data management and governance and emphasising the need for continuous adaptation and collaboration to meet the evolving data needs and challenges. The panel agreed that the user-centric approach and focus on innovation and data governance provide a clear direction for the future of SDMX.

Annex A - Plenary session agenda and presentation materials

All times are UTC+3.

29th October 2023: Conference Day 1

Opening session

Chaired by Rafael Schmidt, Bank for International Settlements

Time	Item	Materials
09:00 AM	Welcome and introduction by Mr. Mohamed Al Qaed, Chief Executive for the Information & eGovernment Authority	Slides
09:15 AM	Special address by Mr. Rasheed Mohammed Al Maraj, Governor, Central Bank of Bahrain	Video
09:25 AM	Special address by Dr. Fahad Aldossari, President of the Saudi Arabia General Authority for Statistics	Video
09:35 AM	Message from the SDMX Sponsors Committee and the business case for SDMX by Bert Kroese, Director of Statistics and Chief Statistician, International Monetary Fund	Slides
10:00 AM	Keynote: Why SDMX Matters? A Community journey towards SDMX as an enabler for AI and the Data Mesh by Eric Anvar, Head of Smart Data, OECD	Slides

Session 1: New techniques and technologies for SDMX

Chaired by Marco Marini, IMF

Time	Item	Materials
11:00 AM	StatGPT: An AI-based SDMX Query Building Assistant – Jeff Danforth, IMF, and Ilya Gorelik, EPAM	Slides
11:15 AM	Leveraging AI techniques in SDMX visualisation – Muneera Salem Al-Buainain, University of Bahrain	Slides
11:30 AM	How many: answering common fuzzy questions with precise data responses – Yves Jaques, UNICEF	Slides
11.45 AM	When SDMX meets AI: Leveraging open source LLMs to make official statistics more accessible and discoverable – Alessandro Benedetti, Sease Ltd.	Slides
12:00 PM	SDMX Meets Data Commons: Integrating SDMX Semantics into an Open and Large Ecosystem of Data Commons Knowledge Graphs – Jehangir Amjad Google Data Commons, and Luis Gerardo Gonzalez Morales, UN Statistics Division (UNSD)	Slides

01:30 PM	Searching for a needle in a haystack – how SDMX IM can improve searching through economic data – Federica Marcon, ECB	Slides

Session 2: Innovation in SDMX visualisation

Chaired by Eric Anvar, Organisation for Economic Cooperation & Development (OECD)

Time	Item	Materials
02:45 PM	DASH-SDMX Dashboard generator – Daniele Olivotti, and Yves Jaques, UNICEF	Slides
03:00 PM	Leveraging SDMX to create bespoke experience for data consumers – Bianca Ligani, BIS, and Matthew Nelson, Regnology	Slides
03:15 PM	Democratising data: How to empower users with new and existing SDMX connectors – David Barraclough, OECD, and Ruth Pozuelo Martinez, Curbal	Slides
03:30 PM	Geo-enabling SDMX with ArcGIS – Kate Hess, and Richard Estephan, ESRI	Slides
03:45 PM	SDMX Innovation: Enhancing data value – Ms.Taweesap Srikwan, National Statistical Office of Thailand	Slides
04:00 PM	Close	

30th October 2023: Conference Day 2

Session 3: Integrating SDMX in the statistical value chain

Chaired by Rochelle O'Hagan, World Bank Group

Time	Item	Materials
09:00 AM	ECB User empowerment and new technologies – Almir Delic, ECB	Slides
09:15 AM	Use of the SDMX Information Model to Build Transversal IT Platforms – Juan Muñoz López, INEGI	Slides
09:30 AM	Overview of EUROSTAT project: "Metadata for European Microdata – Luca Gramaglia, Eurostat	Slides
09:45 AM	Microdata in SDMX 3.0 – features, use cases and tools – Stratos Nikoloutsos, and Olivier Sirello, BIS	Slides
09:55 AM	Python using SDMXthon in the statistical value chain – Antonio Olleros, and Javier Hernandez, Meaningful Data	Slides

10:05 AM	Towards an SDMX global data structure definition of property price indicators - Bianca Ligani, and Robert Szemere, BIS	Slides

Session 4: Using SDMX with other standards

Chaired by Alessandro Bonara, European Central Bank (ECB)

Time	Item	Materials
10:45 AM	Aligning SDMX with FAIR Principles: Recommendations of the IUSSP-CODATA Working Group on FAIR Vocabularies in Population Research – Arofan Gregory, IUSSP-CODATA Working Group	Slides
11:00 AM	Standardisation brings efficiencies: On realising efficiency benefits by embedding SDMX and other standards in the statistics production lifecycle – Glenn Tice, BIS	Slides
11:15 AM	Using data description to automate validation with VTL – Thomas Dubois, and Franck Cotton, INSEE	Slides
11:27 AM	VTL integration in a SDMX lifecycle solution for dissemination Statistical Data – Antonio Olleros, Meaningful Data and José Vereecken, National Bank of Belgium	Slides
11:39 AM	Harnessing the VTL in business: an easy to use tool for business orientated statistics – Valentino Pinna, Giuseppe Bruno, and Attilio Mattiocco, Banca d'Italia	Slides

Session 5: SDMX data governance and management

Chaired by David Barraclough, OECD, and Luca Gramaglia, Eurostat

Time	Item	Materials
01:30 PM	Introduction: The Reference Framework for SDMX Structural Metadata Governance: why and how to use it - David Barraclough, OECD and Luca Gramaglia, Eurostat	Slides
01:45 PM	Insights about FAO Governance for data dissemination and exchange using SDMX – Ngarsaim Espoir Beram, and Aymen Charef, UN Food & Agricultural Organisation (FAO)	Slides
02:00 PM	Enhancing Thailand Data Governance for Statistical Exchange by using SDMX Standard – Ms.Taweesap Srikwan, Statistics Thailand	Slides
02:25 PM	How IMF's SDMX-based data management platform is strengthening data governance – Allen Boddie, IMF	Slides

Session 6: SDMX partnerships and cooperation

Chaired by Edgardo Greising, International Labour Organisation

Time	Item	Materials
03:00 PM	sdmx.io – where tools and learning resources come together to simplify SDMX adoption – Brian Buffett, BIS	Slides
03:12 PM	Importance of SDMX tools interoperability: FMR and .Stat Suite example – José Vereecken, NBB, Jonathan Challener, OECD, and Stratos Nikoloutsos, BIS	Slides
03:24 PM	BIS Fusion Metadata Registry meets IMF SDMX Central: A Strategic Partnership - Marco Marini, IMF and Rafael Schmidt, BIS	Slides
03:26 PM	Achieving tools interoperability: What impact on SDMX 3.0 implementation – Fadhila Najeh, FAO	Slides
03:48 PM	Q&A	
04:00 PM	Close	

31st October 2023: Conference Day 3

Session 7: Implementation of SDMX and lessons learnt

Chaired by Yves Jaques, UNICEF, and Mr. Ayman Fouad Al Ansari, Chief IT Project Governance, Governance & Enterprise Architecture Directorate, iGA

Time	Item	Materials
09:00 AM	SDMX Exchange and Dissemination of Sustainable Development Goals: Lessons Learned – Abdulla Gozalov, and Harumi Shibata Salazar, UNSD	Slides
09:15 AM	Use of SDMX for Reporting on SDGs: Experience of the Arab Region – Neda Jafar, and Rabih El Habta, ESCWA	Slides
09:30 AM	SDMX Implementation in Gulf Corporation Council Statistical Office – Sami Khamis Al Fazari, GCC-STAT	Slides
09:45 AM	Implementation of Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX) at Reserve Bank of India - Strengthening Data Governance, Data Management, and Data Visualisation – Debasis Nandi, and Sudipta Dutta, Reserve Bank of India	Slides
10:00 AM	Implementing SDMX and .Stat Suite: the Maldives Experience – Mohamed Irfan, Maldives Bureau of Statistics, Dayyan Shayani, UN ESCAP, and Brian Buffett, Independent Consultant	Slides

10:45 AM	Migrating to a fully SDMX compliant platform: what, why and how? – David Barraclough, OECD	Slides
11:00 AM	Data engineering for moving out from legacy systems to SDMX compliant systems: the Istat experience – Francesco Rizzo, and Carlo Boselli, Italian National Institute of Statistics	Slides
11:15 AM	Pacific Data Hub: Store once, Publish many – Denis Grofils, Pacific Community	Slides
11:45 AM	Using SDMX to Efficiently Manage Computer-Assisted Translation – Jennifer Park, Stephen Fanning, World Bank Group, and Abdulla Gozalov, UNSD	Slides

Session 8: Current and future development of the SDMX standard

Chaired by Nadezhda Vlahova, Eurostat

Time	Item	Materials
01:30 PM	Update from the Technical Working Group (TWG) – Edgardo Greising, ILO	Slides
01:45 PM	Update from the SDMX Statistical Working Group (SWG) – David Barraclough, SWG chair, OECD	Slides
02:00 PM	Towards a Full Integration of SDMX in the Data Value Chain – the Present and Future of SDMX Tools - Bilyana Bogdanova, and Brian Buffett, BIS	Slides
02:10 PM	Units of Measure modelling and harmonisation of unit of measure representation – Yavuz Coban, OECD, on behalf of the SDMX SWG Unit of Measure task team	Slides

Session 9: SDMX capacity building initiatives

Chaired by Abdulla Gozalov, UNSD, and Jonathan Challener, OECD

Time	Item	Materials
02:35 PM	Introduction including a general report on capacity building activities across the SDMX Community and launch of live SWOT by the chairs	Slides
02:45 PM	Lowering the entry barrier to SDMX for data producers: .Stat Academy – Jonathan Challener, OECD	Slides
02:55 PM	Unleashing the Power of Data: The Africa Information Highway's Approach to Building Data Modelling Knowledge and	Slides

	exposing Well-Structured Data – Momar Kouta, African Development Bank	
03:05 PM	SDMX Tools eLearning Course – Stefan Schipper, Asian Development Bank	Slides
03:15 PM	A final wrap-up discussion with the SWOT results	

Closing panel

Chaired by Rafael Schmidt, Bank for International Settlements

Time	Item	Materials
03:25 PM	Panellists: Abdulla Gozalov, UNSD and chair of the Global Conference Organising Committee, Alessandro Bonara, ECB Edgardo Greising, ILO and outgoing chair of the SDMX TWG, Eric Anvar, OECD, Marco Marini, IMF, Dr. Khalid Almutawah, Deputy Chief Executive, Operation & Governance, iGA	Video
04:00 PM	Close	

Annex B – Plenary session videos

Day 1	English	Arabic
Day 2	English	Arabic
Day 3	English	Arabic

All conference videos: https://www.sdmx2023.org/videos/