



**INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SERVICES:
DATA COLLECTION AND COMPILATION DIFFICULTIES
CASE OF MOROCCO**

Presented by Mrs: BOUDINAR SARA

Exchange Office, Morocco

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- Importance of international trade in services in the Moroccan balance of payments

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- Data sources used for the compilation of the balance of services

Importance of international trade in services in the Moroccan balance of payments

- ❖ Since March 2014, the Exchange Office published the first balance of payments according to the new recommendations of the 6th edition of the BPM.
- ❖ The twelve sections of services recommended by BPM6 are compiled from 2014 (only 7 lines previously).
- ❖ The exports of services represent more than 35% of the current account credit for the year 2016.
- ❖ Imports of services account for 17% of current account debit.
- ❖ Travels, transport and other business services are the most important items in terms of receipts.

Data sources used for the compilation of the balance of services

Bank reporting
(settlements and banks bill)

customs records

Administrative records
(Public and private establishments)

Enterprises and establishments
surveys

Data sources used for the compilation of the balance of services

- ❖ Manufacturing and repair services are compiled mainly on the basis of customs information containing value added.
- ❖ Complementary surveys are carried out to serve certain sections : the construction section and the breakdown of call center receipts by type of activity.
- ❖ The other services are compiled using the banking settlements.
- ❖ The data of these settlements are the subject of regular reports transmitted by the banks each decade with a maximum delay of 10 days.

Data sources used for the compilation of the balance of services

➤ Advantages of the ITRS

- ❖ Completeness of bank reporting: no threshold is applied to settlements to be reported.
- ❖ Timeliness and high frequency facilitating data compilation
- ❖ computerized transmission via a platform between EO and banks.
- ❖ The compilation of services is done monthly. Major components are published within 30 days after the end of the reporting period.

Data sources used for the compilation of the balance of services

➤ limitations of the ITRS

- ❖ Some services like transport or construction are collected in terms of net flows and not in terms of gross flows. (mode 3: commercial presence)
- ❖ Transactions that do not give rise to currency exchange are not captured (eg transport operators).
- ❖ The majority of components are compiled in terms of regulations and not in terms of transactions,
- ❖ Lack of accuracy of the nature of the operation and the partner country. The bank does not always have detailed information about the regulations.

Data sources used for the compilation of the balance of services

➤ Entreprises and establishments surveys

- ❖ The Exchange Office has set up a survey of businesses to collect data on trade in services except travels and government services.
- ❖ In 2007, the Ministry of finances promulgated the statistic law that obliges residents to report to the Exchange Office transactions with non-residents.
- ❖ The first survey data is available and will be used in the compilation of the balance of services from 2018.
- ❖ The survey is conducted on a quarterly basis with answers for each month. The data collected will be in terms of transaction.

Data sources used for the compilation of the balance of services

- ❖ the survey covered a sample of 530 operators drawn according to a stratified sample design.
- ❖ It will collect the first data on the exchange of services and store it in structured databases.
- ❖ The download and deposit of the questionnaire is done via a platform that is developed by the IT department of the exchange office.

Data sources used for the compilation of the balance of services

- Advantages :
 - ❖ The services will be compiled in terms of transactions.
 - ❖ The exact availability of the nature of operation, the partner country and the activity of the company .
 - ❖ Services will be compiled in terms of gross flows.
- limitations :
 - ❖ The non-completeness of the information: need for grossing up and statistical estimation.
 - ❖ The dissemination of several items requested by economic policy-makers can only be made on a quarterly basis (such as transport services).



Thank you for your attention