

Republic of South Sudan: Technical  
Assistance Report-Report on External  
Sector Statistics Mission



# REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REPORT—REPORT ON EXTERNAL SECTOR STATISTICS MISSION

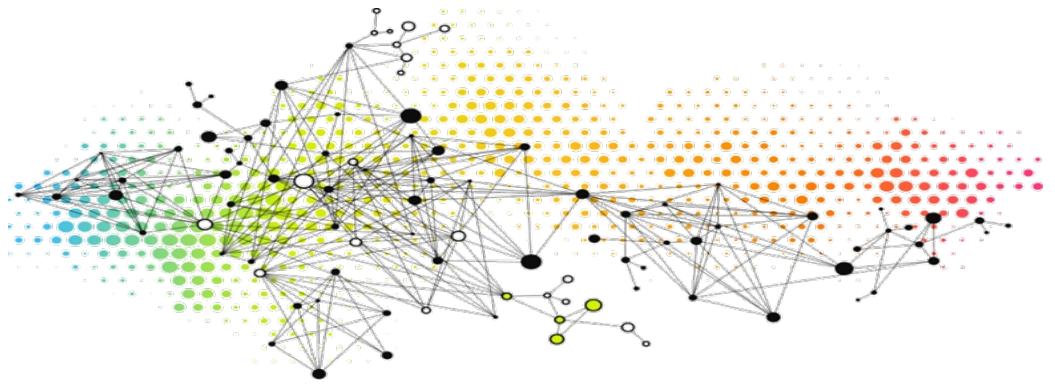
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# REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

AUGUST 2019

## REPORT ON EXTERNAL SECTOR STATISTICS MISSION (JUNE 17–28, 2019)

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## Glossary

BSS	Bank of South Sudan
CIF	Cost, insurance, and freight
CD	Customs Department
EAC	The East Africa Community
ESS	External sector statistics
FOB	Free on board
GoS	Government of Sudan
GoSS	Government of South Sudan
ICS	Integrated Correspondence System
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IRFCL	International Reserves and Foreign Currency Liquidity
ITRS	International Transactions Reporting System
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MOP	Ministry of Petroleum
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
SDRs	Special Drawing Rights
SSP	South Sudan Pound
STA	IMF's Statistics Department
TA	Technical assistance
TFA	Transitional Financial Agreement
UN	United Nations

## SUMMARY OF MISSION OUTCOMES AND PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **To support the Bank of South Sudan (BSS) in improving external sector statistics (ESS), the IMF's Statistics Department (STA) conducted a technical assistance (TA) mission in Juba, South Sudan, during June 17–28, 2019.** This mission is part of the ongoing TA to South Sudan on capacity building in ESS. The last ESS mission for South Sudan took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, during July 30 to August 3, 2018. The action plan of the 2018 mission was largely achieved, including the priority recommendations; however, some of the action items from the 2016 mission are outstanding. Reliable ESS are essential for informed economic policymaking by the authorities and will satisfy the data needs of key stakeholders to assess the country's external sector developments.
2. **The recommendations made during the 2018 mission for the recording of oil exports and transactions with Sudan under the Transitional Financial Agreement (TFA) were implemented by the BSS.** The ESS compilers now receive monthly data on oil exports, including price and the number of oil barrels per shipment, from the Ministry of Petroleum (MOP). Estimate for transfers under the TFA and payments for the transportation, processing, and storage of oil are included in the balance of payments. Information received from the Financial Markets Department of the BSS indicates that as at end-May 2019, US\$766.3 million was outstanding under the TFA and the default balances were all paid as at December 2018.
3. **The provisional current account balance compiled for 2018 was revised downward from a surplus of US\$455.1 million to a deficit of US\$348.4 million.** The estimated balance for the goods, services, primary income, and secondary income sub-account, was revised. Appendix I contains additional details on these revisions.
4. **Goods imports was revised upwards by US\$1,242.2 million to US\$2,053.1 million.** The recording of imports was improved to include estimates for missing import entries, under reporting on invoices, and unrecorded import invoices. The cost of insurance and freight were also estimated and deducted to produce an estimate of imports at free on board (FOB) values. Previous estimates for imports were estimated at cost, insurance, and freight (CIF) values.
5. **The services balance was revised upwards by US\$909.6 million to US\$1,370.4 million.** The estimate of services debits was improved to include an estimate for freight charges and services provided by international aid agencies, such as the United Nations (UN).
6. **The deficit on the primary income account was revised downward by US\$305.3 million, from US\$634.5 to US\$329.2.** The provisional estimates of investment income debits included the estimate of profits repatriated by the oil company twice. This double counting was corrected.

7. **The balance on the secondary income account was revised upwards by US\$1,029.2 million, from a deficit of US\$538.4 million to a surplus of US\$490.8 million.** The mission discussed with the compilers estimates of international aid from the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). The mission recommended that the compilers revise the provisional balance of payments compiled for 2018 to include new data sources. These estimates were accepted and included in the provisional balance of payments.
8. **Inter-agency cooperation is critical for building a sound data collection system for compiling ESS in South Sudan.** The mission worked toward enhancing the inter-agency cooperation by meeting with selected public sector bodies, providing them with an overview of the balance of payments and the data that the BSS will request from them. Before the end of the mission, requested data from one of the entities, the Civil Aviation Authority, was provided. During the meeting with the Debt Management Unit of the Ministry of Finance (MOF) the mission requested information on the government's external transactions. The Debt Management Unit staff are willing to share data with the BSS; however, there are data gaps due to the lack of a proper database. The mission recommended that the compilers follow up with the MOF each month for information on the government's external transactions.
9. **A work program was developed to conduct a visitor expenditure survey and a preliminary International Reserves and Foreign Currency Liquidity (IRFCL) template was submitted to STA for review.** A draft form was produced to conduct a visitor expenditure survey for estimating visitor expenditure in South Sudan. The IRFCL produced includes data on reserves assets, but information on current short-term net drains are unavailable.
10. **To support progress in the above work areas, the mission recommended a detailed one-year action plan, with the following priority recommendations carrying particular weight to make headway in improving ESS reliability (Table 1).**

**Table 1. South Sudan: Priority Recommendations**

Target Date	Priority Recommendation	Responsible Institutions
September 2019	<p><i>Revise the provisional balance of payments estimates compiled for 2018 as follows:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Amend data on imports from the Customs Department (CD) to include an estimate for missing import entries.</i></li> <li>2. <i>Current transfers credits to include the new estimates of international aid.</i></li> </ol>	BSS
September 2019	<i>Conduct a survey of departing nonresident visitors.</i>	BSS
December 2019	<i>Submit the IRFCL, including the estimates of predetermined short-term net drains on foreign currency assets.</i>	BSS

## DETAILED TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### A. Action Plan

11. **The below action plan includes steps to accomplish milestones and target completion dates.** The plan is for technical compilers. Actions are prioritized (high, medium) and priority recommendations are identified.

Priority	Action/Milestone	Target Completion Date
<b><i>Outcome: Source data are adequate for the compilation of these macroeconomic statistics</i></b>		
PR	Revise the provisional balance of payments estimates compiled for 2018 as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amend data on imports from the CD to include an estimate for missing import entries, under reporting on invoices and unrecorded invoices that were received.</li> <li>Revise current transfers credits to include the new estimates of international aid.</li> </ul>	September 2019
H	Request from the balance of payments compilers in Kenya and Uganda the percentage of imports that are used to estimate freight charges.	September 2019
H	Develop an estimate of the cost of transporting goods to the country by adding to the average of the freight cost for Kenya and Uganda the cost of transporting goods from these countries to South Sudan.	September 2019
H	Deduct from imports an estimate for freight charges.	September 2019
H	Include freight charges deducted from imports in transportation services debits.	September 2019
H	Deduct from imports the estimate for insurance charges.	Ongoing
H	Include in insurance services 10 percent of the estimated insurance charges.	September 2019
H	Include in current transfers 90 percent of the estimated insurance charges.	September 2019
H	Request from the balance of payments compilers in Kenya and Uganda information on gold imports from South Sudan.	September 2019
H	Request from the East African Community (EAC) available data on gold imports from South Sudan by member states.	September 2019



Priority	Action/Milestone	Target Completion Date
H	Contact the Ministry of Mining and request from them available information on gold mining in South Sudan.	August 2019
H	Include in the balance of payments an estimate for fuel sold to nonresident aircrafts.	September 2019
H	Use the data on aircraft fuel imports to develop an estimate of fuel sold to nonresident aircrafts.	September 2019
H	Request data from sellers of aircraft fuel information on fuel sold to nonresident aircrafts.	September 2019
H	Include in the balance of payments data on fees paid by nonresident airlines to the Civil Aviation Authority under transportation services credit.	September 2019
H	Revise services debits to include services that are provided by international aid agencies.	September 2019
H	Request from international agencies such as the UN, data on international aid to South Sudan.	August 2019
H	Follow up with the MOF to determine if interest was charged on default balances: if interest was charged, disaggregate the payments into principal payments and interest payments.	August 2019
H	Request from the MOF a disaggregation of the payments on default balances into the amounts paid in 2017 and the amounts paid in 2018.	August 2019
H	Include principal payments in accounts payable of the financial account.	September 2019
H	Include interest payments in the primary income account of the current account.	September 2019
H	Request from the MOF data on loans received from nonresidents.	August 2019
H	Request from the MOF data on loan repayment to nonresidents.	August 2019
H	Request from the MOF data on interest payments to nonresidents.	August 2019
H	Follow up with the Financial Markets Department of the BSS for data on external transactions of the Government that are facilitated by the BSS.	Ongoing
H	Use available data on reserves to complete the asset section of the template on IRFCL.	September 2019
H	Develop estimates for reserve inflows and outflows for one month.	December 2019

Priority	Action/Milestone	Target Completion Date
H	Develop estimates for reserve inflows and outflows for two to three months.	December 2019
H	Develop estimates for reserve inflows and outflows for four to twelve months.	December 2019
PR	Submit through the ICS, the IRFCL, including the estimates of predetermined short-term net drains on foreign currency assets.	December 2019
H	Request from the Airport Authority permission to conduct a survey of visitors at the departure lounges of the airport.	August 2019
PR	Conduct a survey of departing nonresident visitors, requesting from them information on their expenditure in South Sudan, the number of nights spent in the country and the purpose of their visit.	September 2019
H	Follow up with the Director General of the Immigration Department for information on the number of visitors to the country on a monthly basis.	August 2019
H	Use the information on the number of visitors from the Immigrations Department, the average length of stay for visitors and the average expenditure per person per day to compute an estimate of the expenditure of visitors to the country.	December 2019
H	Include in the balance of payments accounts the estimated expenditure of visitors to the country.	December 2019
H	Request from the EAC Secretariat available data on transactions of residents of other EAC member states with residents of South Sudan.	September 2019 and Ongoing
H	Request from other members of the EAC data on transactions of their residents with residents of South Sudan.	September 2019 and Ongoing
H	Nominate staff involved in the compilation of ESS for training courses on ESS at the IMF's Africa Training Institute.	Ongoing
H	Refrain from transferring staff that is knowledgeable in the compilation of ESS to other areas of the Bank.	Ongoing

## B. Implementation of Status of Previous Action Plans

12. **Significant progress was made in implementing the recommendations of the 2018 ESS mission.** The BSS has achieved most of the recommendations of the previous mission, including the priority recommendations. Appendix II provides a detailed assessment of the implementation of the 2018 action plan.

13. **Some of the recommendations made by the 2016 mission are outstanding.** Recommendations were not implemented due to capacity constraints of the balance of payments compilers, inadequate databases by respondents, and the lack of a data-sharing culture in the economy. Most of the balance of payments compilers were not in the External Sector Unit during the 2016 mission. The mission provided to BSS compilers hands-on training on how to implement some of the pending 2016 mission recommendations, by explaining in detail what is required and meeting with entities that have the required information. Subsequent missions will continue this process by working with the compilers to implement other outstanding recommendations of the 2016 mission. The focus will be on the recommendations that impact large transactions of the economy. Appendix III contains a detailed update on the implementation status of the 2016 action plan.

## C. Recording of Imports

14. **The coverage of imports is underestimated due to missing import entries, under reporting on invoices, and unrecorded import invoices.** The coverage of imports by the Customs Department (CD) was improved in 2018; however, additional improvements are required. Data from the CD for 2018 was improved to include imports by international aid agencies. The ESS compilers separates imports by these agencies into capital equipment and other goods. The value of capital equipment is included in capital transfers and the value of other goods is included in current transfers (secondary income).

15. **Information from the CD indicates imports of US\$810.9 million in 2018 and US\$66.0 million for 2017.** The mission met with the CD and requested an overview of the available data. The CD acknowledged the improvement in data coverage and highlighted data gaps. The CD indicated that there are 21 stations in which goods enter South Sudan. However, the available data includes information from four of these stations. The CD is of the opinion that these four stations account for most of the imports to the country. Due to security concerns, 17 stations do not have customs operations. The mission was also informed by the CD that some of the import invoices that are received from the four stations during 2018 are not recorded. The CD indicated that another factor that contributes to the under-recording of imports for 2018 is underreporting on import invoices. They have stated that the original import invoices are not always provided, as this is not a legal requirement for importers.

16. **The coverage of imports was improved to include an estimate for missing import entries, under reporting on import invoices, and unrecorded import invoices.** The mission

worked with the compilers to improve the recording of goods imports (Table 2). Following discussions with the CD, the National Bureau of Statistics and the BSS staff it was agreed that the 2018 estimate of imports from the CD should be increased to account for missing import entries from the 17 stations that are not accounted. The 2018 mission estimated that these stations accounted for twenty percent of imports to the country.

17. **The BSS staff and the mission agreed that 20 percent does not fully account for imports at these 17 import stations, and the estimate was revised from 20 percent to 30 percent.** The mission and the BSS staff also agreed that the estimate of imports from the CD should be further increased to include an estimate for unrecorded import invoices and under reporting of import invoices. There was an agreement between the mission and compilers that at least 10 percent of import invoices received for 2018 are not recorded. The CD indicated that most of the invoices for December 2018 and some of the invoices for the other months of the year are not recorded.

18. **As an initial estimate, the mission and the compilers increased imports from the CD by an additional 10 percent to account for under reporting on import invoices.** The CD was unable to provide an estimate of under recording on import invoices. The mission recommended that the compilers review these estimates on an ongoing basis and amend them if required. Estimates were also included to account for imports by the Government and the oil companies. Payments for imports of the government are usually made from accounts that are managed by the BSS. Information on these payments are included in the international transactions reporting system (ITRS). The provisional balance of payments for 2018 was updated to include data from the ITRS on payments for imports by the Government. During the 2018 TA mission, an assumption was made that 70 percent of the oil company's costs were for imported items. Imports for 2018 was updated to include 70 percent of the estimated oil company's costs as an estimate for their imports.

**Table 2. South Sudan: Revised Imports (CIF) for 2018**

	USD Million	Contribution
Imports from the CD	810.9	35%
Oil Company	1,008.7	44%
Missing Invoices	243.3	11%
Unrecorded invoices	81.1	4%
Under Reporting on invoices	81.1	4%
Government Imports	81.0	4%
<b>Imports</b>	<b>2,306.1</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: BSS and CD.

19. **The classification of imports was improved to remove insurance cost from total imports.** During the meeting with the CD, the mission requested available information on the cost of insuring imports to South Sudan. The CD indicates that they do not collect this information from importers; however, the CD indicated that insurance charges are two percent of

the value of imports. The mission considers that the insurance estimation should be refined through further inquiries by compilers. Ten percent of the cost of insurance charges was included in insurance services debits and the remaining 90 percent was included in current transfers debits. The amount recorded in insurance services represents the estimate of the cost of providing the service and the amount included in current transfers represents the amount of the insurance premium that is placed in the pool of funds that the insurance company uses to pay claims.

20. **The classification of imports was improved to remove freight cost from total imports.** The CD did not have an estimate of freight cost; however, they consider that this cost is about seven percent of the cost of the goods. The mission is of the opinion that freight charges are more than seven percent of the cost of imports. As an initial estimate, freight cost was estimated at 10 percent of the cost of imports. The mission agreed will compilers to reduce imports by 10 percent to remove freight charges, as this represents the cost of a service. It was also agreed that freight charges be included in transportation services debits. A significant amount of imports to South Soudan first goes to Kenya or Uganda before arriving in the country.

***Recommended Action:***

- Amend data on imports from the CD to include an estimate for missing import entries, under reporting on invoices and unrecorded invoices that were received.
- Request from the balance of payments compilers in Kenya and Uganda the percentage of imports that are used to estimate freight charges.
- Develop an estimate of the cost of transporting goods to the country by adding to the average of the freight cost for Kenya and Uganda the cost of transporting goods from these countries to South Sudan.
- Deduct from imports an estimate for freight charges.
- Include freight charges deducted from imports in transportation services debits.
- Deduct from imports the estimate for insurance charges.
- Include in insurance services 10 percent of the estimated insurance charges.
- Include in current transfers 90 percent of the estimated insurance charges.

## **D. Recording of Transactions Involving Non-Oil Exports**

21. **The primary non-oil exports are timber and scrap materials.** The balance of payments compilers receives detailed data on the exports of timber, scrap materials and other exports from the CD. The information is available monthly and includes the items description, country of destination, export volume and export value in US dollar and South Sudanese Pound (SSP). The

compilers are to review the information on exports carefully and use the US dollar values to compile the balance of payments. If SSP values of exports are converted to US dollar at the official exchange rates for inclusion in the balance of payments, it will be underestimated. Exports for 2018 were converted to SSP at different exchange rates and vary from US\$1.00=SSP 30.00 to US\$1.00=SSP 130.00. The CD was unable to provide information on the reasons why these exchange rates are used to value exports.

22. **Information on gold exports is unavailable.** The mission requested data on gold exports from the CD. The CD noted that gold mining is informal and is conducted on a small scale. Although small and informal, it is believed that the metal is extracted from remote areas, which are not monitored by the CD due to security concerns. Residents extract the commodity in small quantities and sell it in neighboring countries, such as Kenya and Uganda. It is also possible that some of the mining activities are conducted by nonresidents; however, there are no data to validate this assumption. The mission requested from the BSS's Gold Unit available information on South Sudan's gold industry. The representative of the Unit indicated that they do not have any information on gold exports. The BSS compilers agreed to contact the East African Community (EAC) and request data on gold imports by other member states from South Sudan.

**Recommended Actions:**

- Request from the balance of payments compilers in Kenya and Uganda information on gold imports from South Sudan.
- Request from the EAC available data on gold imports from South Sudan, by member states.
- Contact the Ministry of Mining and request from them available information on gold mining in South Sudan.

## E. Recording of Goods Acquired in Ports by Nonresident Airlines

23. **The mission worked with the BSS compilers to develop an estimate for goods procured in ports by nonresident airlines.** The balance of payments accounts that are compiled for South Sudan does not contain an estimate for goods procured in ports by nonresident airlines. The inclusion of goods procured in ports by nonresidents is a recommendation of the 2016 work program. Information from the CD includes data on the importation of jet fuel. An estimate of fuel sold to nonresident airlines was developed from the information on jet fuel imported by residents. It was assumed that all jet fuel imported by residents were sold to nonresident airlines.

**Recommended Actions:**

- Include in the balance of payments an estimate for fuel sold to nonresident airlines.

- Use the data on aircraft fuel imports to develop an estimate of fuel sold to nonresident airlines.
- Request data from sellers of aircraft fuel information on fuel sold to nonresident airlines.

## F. Recording of Fees Paid by Nonresident Airlines

24. **The mission worked with the BSS compilers to obtain data on fees paid by nonresident airlines.** The balance of payments accounts that are compiled for South Sudan does not contain an estimate of these fees, which was recommended by the 2016 ESS mission. The mission and the compilers had meetings with the Civil Aviation Authority and enquired if they have data on fees paid by nonresident airlines. The mission was informed that the information is available, and permission was granted by the executive management for their staff to provide the data to the BSS. Before the end of the mission, data on fees paid by nonresident airlines was received by the BSS.

### **Recommended Actions:**

- Include in the balance of payments data on fees paid by nonresident airlines to the Civil Aviation Authority under transportation services credit.

## G. Recording of International Aid

25. **Following the civil unrest in 2013, there has been a significant amount of aid to South Sudan to assist with the relief efforts.** These are classified in the balance of payments as either current or capital transfers. Aid enters the country in the form of cash and noncash, including food, equipment, and services. It is primarily provided by foreign governments and international organizations, such as the UN and its agencies.

26. **The balance of payments compilers have partial data on international aid.** Balance of payments compilers obtains data on international aid from the ITRS and the CD. Available data allows for a separation of international aid into current transfers and capital transfers. Data from these sources indicated international aid of US\$260.2 million in 2018. The 2018 balance of payments also contains an estimate of wages paid to residents by international organizations of US\$72.6 million. This estimate was obtained from the ITRS. International organizations pay salaries in US dollars and do so from domestic bank accounts. There are no estimates in the balance of payments for international aid provided in the form of services. International aid to the country in the form of services are significant; some of which includes peace keeping and transportation services.

27. **The mission worked with the compilers to improve the recording of grants received from abroad.** The mission met with the Aid Coordination Unit of the MOF and requested information on grants received from nonresidents. The Unit indicated that the information that is available to them is very limited as they do not have a database on aid received from

nonresidents. They indicated that a significant amount of the aid is in the form of services and that they do not receive this data. Also, they do not have a dollar value for aid received in the form of goods. The latest available report on aid received from abroad corresponds to the period 2012/13. For that period, US\$1.4 billion was committed to the country. The mission discussed with the compilers estimates of aid from the UN OCHA. From this source, it was estimated that South Sudan received international aid of US\$1.4 billion in 2018, which is significantly above the estimate of US\$332.9 million that is included in the 2018 balance of payments.

28. **The UN OCHA's estimate was accepted by the compilers as international aid to the country in 2018.** An additional amount of US\$1,067.1 million was included in the secondary income sub-account of the 2018 balance of payments to increase the estimate for international aid to US\$1.4 billion. It was assumed by the mission and the compilers that half of the international aid received from abroad (US\$700.0 million) was in the form of services. Some of the international aid do not go to the Government, and as such the MOF may not have complete data on international aid to the country.

***Recommended Actions:***

- Revise current transfers credits to include the new estimates of international aid.
- Revise services debits to include services that are provided by international aid agencies.
- Request from international agencies such as the UN, data at least annually on aid to South Sudan.

## H. Transitional Financial Agreement

29. **There is an agreement to provide a cushion for Sudan against the economic shock arising from the secession of South Sudan and the resulting loss of oil revenues.**

In September 2012, the Government of South Sudan (GoSS) and the Government of Sudan (GoS) signed an agreement on oil and related economic matters. Under the agreement, South Sudan agrees to transfer US\$3.028 billion to Sudan, at a rate of US\$15.00 per oil barrel redelivered (the volume of oil that is available to South Sudan after processing) to the GoSS and lifted at the marine terminal on board vessels at Port Sudan. As a component of the TFA, the GoS shall issue an invoice to the GoSS for the relevant transfers after the oil has been lifted and a bill of landing issued. The TFA specifies that payments of the transfers are to be made within 40 days from the date of the bill of landing. The agreement indicates that if all transfers are not made within the specified period, the GoS shall issue a default notice to the GoSS.

30. **The recommendations made during the 2018 mission for the recording of oil exports and transactions with Sudan under the TFA were implemented by the BSS.** The ESS compilers now receives monthly data on oil exports, including price and the number of oil barrels per shipment, from the MOP. Estimate for transfers under the TFA and payments for the



transportation, processing and storage of oil are included in the balance of payments estimates compiled for the country.

31. **The TFA was initially for three years and six months; in February 2016 another agreement between the GoSS and the GoS was signed.** The GoS agrees to purchase between 8,000 barrels and 28,000 barrels of oil each day from the GoSS and the GoSS agrees to sell to the GoS between 8,000 barrels and 28,000 barrels of oil each day. Prior to the start of each month, both parties agree on the volume of oil that will be purchased/sold daily. Under this agreement the GoS pays for the oil at FOB prices and the GoSS pays fees for transit, processing transportation and TFA. The agreement allows for the GoS to pay all amounts due to the GoSS by off-setting balances that are due to Sudan under the TFA. Following the payment of all outstanding balances by South Sudan, the agreement allows for the GoSS to send a default notice to the GoS indicating the remaining default amounts. These amounts should be settled within two weeks, after which the GoSS has the right to suspend delivery of crude oil until the GoS remedies the breach. The GoSS is entitled to interest on overdue amounts at a rate to two percent above the 6-month LIBOR calculated for each day of delay, compounded monthly.

32. **The mission was informed that as at end December 2018, all default balances by South Sudan were paid.** During a meeting with the MOF, a representative indicated that the outstanding default balances to GoS were paid off. Information obtained from the Financial Markets Department of the BSS indicates that for the period August 2017 to December 2018, US\$157.0 million was paid to the GoS as default balances under the TFA. This information was not disaggregated into principal and interest. The mission discussed with the compilers on the feasibility to determine if interest was charged on default balances and if relevant disaggregate the payments for default balances into principal and interest. The amounts paid for principal be included in accounts payable of the financial account and the amounts paid for interest be included in the primary income account.

***Recommended Action:***

- Follow up with the MOF and the MOP to determine if interest was charged on default balances; if interest was charged, disaggregate the payments into principal payments and interest payments.
- Request from the MOF a disaggregation of the payments on default balances into the amounts paid in 2017 and the amounts paid in 2018.
- Include principal payments in accounts payable of the financial account.
- Include interest payments in the primary income account of the current account.

## I. Accounting for Transactions of the Government

33. **The MOF does not have a database on external transactions of the Government.** The mission and the compilers met with the MOF's Debt Management Unit and requested information on the government's external transactions. The mission requested data in loans received from nonresidents, repayments of loans from nonresidents and interest payments on these loans. The staff at the Debt Management Unit are willing to share data with the BSS; however, they highlighted the lack of data on these transactions due to the absence of database on these transactions.

### **Recommended Action:**

- Request from the MOF data on loans received from nonresidents.
- Request from the MOF data on loan repayment to nonresidents.
- Request from the MOF data on interest payments to nonresidents.
- Follow up with the Financial Markets Department of the BSS for data on external transactions of the Government that are facilitated by the BSS.

## J. International Reserves and Foreign Currency Liquidity Template

34. **The data available to the BSS for compiling IRFCL template for South Sudan was reviewed.** The balance of payments compilers have data on official reserve assets of the BSS, which includes Special Drawing Rights (SDRs). Holdings of SDRs are not included in the estimates of official reserves that are in the monetary and financial statistics. The classification of the country's holdings of SDRs in the ESS and the monetary and financial statistics should be the same, if the BSS is the official SDR holder. The mission worked with the compilers to remove small holdings of Kenya's and Uganda's Shillings from the assets. The official reserve assets of the country do not include gold holdings of the BSS. This asset is classified on the BSS's balance sheet as a nonfinancial asset.

35. **The BSS does not have information on short-term net drains on foreign currency assets.** BSS compilers will work with the Financial Markets Department to develop estimates of short-term (one month, two to three months, and for four to twelve months) net drains on the foreign currency assets of the BSS. Preliminary estimate can be developed from information contained in the worksheet from the Financial Markets Department on monthly foreign exchange inflows and outflows. First, estimate the monthly average inflows and outflows of foreign exchange from the available data. The estimate for average inflows can be used as an estimate for future monthly inflows and the estimate of average outflows be used as an estimate of future monthly outflows. The estimate of monthly foreign exchange outflows can be improved by including projections for principal and interest payments by the Government on loans received from nonresident. In addition, the estimate for monthly inflows can be improved by including

projections for loan receipts by the Government from nonresidents. Information contained in the IRFCL template can be used in the management of the country's reserves. It can be used to assess the adequacy of the reserves to meet short-term liquidity needs of the BSS.

36. **The BSS has started the process of compiling the IRFCL template.** The available data on reserve assets and historical information on short-term net drains on the official reserve assets was used to produce a preliminary IRFCL template, which was shared with the STA for review. The mission worked with the compilers to access an IRFCL template for official submission to the Integrated Correspondence System (ICS).

***Recommended Action:***

- Use available data on reserves to complete the asset section of the template on IRFCL.
- Reviews the recording of SDRs in the monetary and financial statistics and the ESS, as well as implement consistent classification of these assets.
- Develop estimates for reserve inflows and outflows for one month.
- Develop estimates for reserve inflows and outflows for two to three months.
- Develop estimates for reserve inflows and outflows for four to twelve months.
- Submit through the ICS, the IRFCL, including the estimates of predetermined short-term net drains on foreign currency assets.

## **K. Development of a Visitor Expenditure Survey**

37. **A work program was developed to conduct a visitor expenditure survey for South Sudan, including a survey instrument to conduct it.** The mission worked with the compilers to develop a survey form to conduct a survey of visitor expenditure to the country (Appendix IV). The mission also worked with the compilers to identify the local entity that the BSS should request permission from in order to survey departing passengers in the departure lounges at the airport. Permission to survey departing passengers should be obtained from the Airport Authority. The compilers indicated that it might be feasible to conduct this survey on a quarterly basis.

***Recommended Action:***

- Request from the Airport Authority permission to conduct a survey of visitors at the departure lounges of the airport.
- Conduct a survey of departing nonresident visitors, requesting from them information on their expenditure in South Sudan, the number of nights spent in the country, and the purpose of their visit.

## L. Estimation of Visitor Expenditure

38. **The compilers have no data on the number of visitors to the country.** All visitors to the country must be registered with the Immigration Department and pay a registration fee of US\$15.00. The mission and the compilers met with the Director of Immigration and requested information on the number of visitors to the country. The compilers were directed to request the information from the Director General of the Immigration Department.

### **Recommended Action:**

- Follow up with the Director General of the Immigration Department for information on the number of visitors to the country on a monthly basis.
- Use the information on the number of visitors from the Immigration Department, the average length of stay for visitors, and the average expenditure per person per day to compute an estimate of the expenditure of visitors to the country.
- Include in the balance of payments accounts the estimated expenditure of visitors to the country.

## M. Harmonization of Balance of Payments Statistics with Other EAC Member States

39. **The EAC Secretariat is working with member states, including South Sudan, to harmonize balance of payments compilation methodology and dissemination practices.**<sup>1</sup> This is with the objective of creating balance of payments accounts for the EAC region.<sup>2</sup> A mission from the EAC visited the BSS and assessed the current compilation and dissemination practices and provided recommendations that should be considered when reporting the country's balance of payments to the Secretariat. One of the recommendations is to develop estimates of transactions with other members of the EAC. Transactions among members of the EAC will be excluded from the overall balance of payments accounts for the EAC.

### **Recommended Action:**

- Request from the EAC Secretariat available data on transactions of residents of other EAC member states with residents of South Sudan.
- Request from other members of the EAC data on transactions of their residents with residents of South Sudan.

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<sup>1</sup> South Sudan became a full member of the EAC on August 15, 2016.

<sup>2</sup> The compilation of regional balance of payments accounts for EAC member states is a component of the work program to create The East Africa Monetary Union, by 2024.

## N. Technical Assistance and Capacity Development

40. **In discussing future TA needs, the mission noted the BSS commitment in implementing some of the recommendations of the past TA missions.** The BSS compilers indicated that additional TA is needed for supporting their efforts in further developing ESS. The mission's view is that a follow-up TA mission could be fielded once the BSS makes progress in implementing the mission's recommendations, with a primary focus on the priority actions.

41. **The BSS staff acknowledged the urgent need for training of balance of payments compilers.** BSS is encouraged to nominate staff for future training in ESS, offered by the IMF's Africa Training Institute. The mission discussed with the staff of the Research and Statistics Department, including the Deputy Director, the importance of retaining staff trained in the compilation of ESS.

### **Recommended Action:**

- Nominate staff involved in the compilation of ESS for training courses on ESS at the IMF's Africa Training Institute.
- Refrain from transferring staff that is knowledgeable in the compilation of ESS to other areas of the Bank.

## O. Officials Met During the Mission

Name	Institution
	<b>Bank of South Sudan</b>
Albino Dak Othow	1st Deputy Governor
Moses Makur Deng	Director General for Supervision, Research and Statistics Department
Marial Mabeny Bawour	Director for Financial Markets Department,
Chan Andrea Chan	Deputy Director, Financial Markets Department,
Charles Abugo Joseph	Deputy Director Research and Statistics Department
Catherine Kapuki Patrick	Head of Statistics Division, Research and Statistics Department
Tunna William Amoi Mabior	Head of External Sector Statistics, Research and Statistics Department
Charles Lado James	Bank officer, External Sector Statistics, Research and Statistics Department
Amule Jackson Scopas	Bank officer, External Sector Statistics, Research and Statistics Department
Peter Majok Chiengan	Head of Middle Office, Financial Markets Department
Kerubino Akuai Manyiel	Act. Head of Monetary Statistics, Research and Statistics Department
Peter Mading Malual	Senior Bank officer, Middle office, Financial Markets Department
Lomini Mathias	Bank officer, Front office, Financial Markets

Name	Institution
Jamal Lado James	Bank officer, Debt Management, Financial Markets
Monaliza Twong Dak	Senior Bank officer, External Sector Statistics, Research and Statistics Department
Stephen Keah Luony Jony	Bank Officer, Policy Research and Analysis Division
Lokang O. Philip	Bank officer, Front office, Financial Markets
	<b>South Sudan Customs Department</b>
Jokonda Anthony	Director for Statistics, Custom Division South Sudan- Juba
Samuel Matoya Bandas	Custom Officer, Custom Division, South Sudan- Juba
	<b>South Sudan Civil Aviation Authority</b>
Simon Leeka Wure	Director General for Administration and Finance
Amos Makuei Thon	Finance Manager, Juba Airport.
	<b>Ministry of Finance &amp; Economic Planning</b>
Arop Nuoi Arop	Director of Aid Coordination Unit
John Kenyi Eyabo	Head of Debt Management Unit
Chol M. Agoot	Deputy Director of Aid Coordination
Lwiza M. K. Deng	Senior Inspector Aid Coordination Unit
Monica Santino	Inspector Aid Coordination Unit
Nyantiop Martha Agoot	Macroeconomic Department
David Manyok	Officer, Debt Management Unit
Adel William Garang	Inspector Macroeconomic Department
Elizabeth Adhel Ngor	Inspector Macroeconomic Department
Wilma John Onarato	Inspector Macroeconomic Department
Hellen Charengo Paul	Inspector Debt Management Unit
Juliet Acheing Richard	Inspector Debt Management Unit
	<b>National Bureau Statistics</b>
David Chan Thiang	Director

## Appendix I. Revised Current and Capital Account 2018

	<u>US\$</u> Credits	<u>US\$</u> Debits	<u>US\$</u> Net	<u>US\$</u> Credits	Revised <u>US\$</u> Debits	<u>US\$</u> Net	<u>US\$</u> Credits	Difference <u>US\$</u> Debits	<u>US\$</u> Net
<b>Current Account Balance</b>			<b>455.1</b>			<b>(348.4)</b>			<b>(830.5)</b>
Goods	2,899.8	810.9	2,088.9	2,913.6	2,053.1	860.5	13.8	1,242.2	(1,228.4)
Exports	2,899.8		2,899.8	2,913.6		2,913.6	13.8		13.8
Imports		810.9 <sup>1</sup>	810.9		2,053.1 <sup>2</sup>	(2,053.1)			(2,864.0)
Services	142.9	603.7	(460.8)	148.2	1518.6	(1,370.4)	5.3	914.9	(909.6)
Primary Income	86.1	720.5	(634.5)	86.1	415.2	(329.2)		(305.3)	305.3
Secondary Income	186.3	724.8	(538.4)	1,253.5	762.7	490.8	1,067.1	37.9	1,029.2
<b>Capital Account Balance</b>	<b>155.4</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>153.0</b>	<b>155.4</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>153.0</b>			
Capital Transfers	155.4	2.4	153.0	155.4	2.4	153.0			
General government	147.9	1.6	146.2	147.9	1.6	146.2			
Other Sectors	7.6	0.8	6.8	7.6	0.8	6.8			
<b>Current and Capital Account Balance</b>			<b>608.1</b>			<b>(195.3)</b>			<b>(803.5)</b>

<sup>1</sup> Imports at CIF values.<sup>2</sup> Imports at F.O.B. values.

## Appendix II. Status of the 2018 Action Plan

Priority	Action/Milestone	Target Completion Date	Status April 22, 2019
<b><i>Outcome: Source data are adequate for the compilation of these macroeconomic statistics</i></b>			
<b>PR</b>	Revise the 2014 balance of payments and disseminate the revised estimates for 2014 to 2017.	January 2019	Achieved
M	Monitor the activities surrounding the operations of the oil pipeline (South Sudan to Sudan) that is currently out of service to determine when operations resume.	Ongoing	Achieved
M	Include in the balance of payments data on oil exported through the second pipeline and related transactions.	March 2019	The BSS to follow up with the MOP to determine if the information on oil exports provided includes data for the second pipeline. The first shipment from this line was December 2018.
H	Obtain from the MOP data on the number of barrels of oil that are exported for 2018 and onwards, including the number of barrels that are shipped per shipment, and the number of barrels that remain in Sudan.	March 2019	Achieved
H	Obtain data from the MOP on the price of oil shipped, per shipment for 2018 and onwards.	March 2019	Achieved
H	Use information on price per shipment to estimate the value of each shipment of oil for 2018 and onwards.	March 2019	Achieved
H	Use the information on price per shipment to compute a monthly average price for oil exports for 2018 and onwards.	March 2019	Achieved
H	Use the monthly average price of oil and the monthly volume acquired by Sudan to estimate the value of oil exports to Sudan for 2018 and onwards.	March 2019	Achieved
<b>PR</b>	Use data from the MOP on the volume and price of oil exports to estimate the total value of oil	March 2019	Achieved



Priority	Action/Milestone	Target Completion Date	Status April 22, 2019
	exports and include the information in the balance of payments for 2018 and onwards.		
H	Multiply the total volume of oil exported by US\$6.50 and include the amount in transport services debit for the 2018 and future balance of payments statistics.	March 2019	Achieved
H	Multiply the total volume of oil exported by US\$1.60 and include the amount in manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by other debits for the 2018 and future balance of payments statistics.	March 2019	Achieved
H	Multiply the total volume of oil exported by US\$1.00 and include the amount in other services debits for the 2018 and future balance of payments statistics.	March 2019	Achieved
H	Estimate the profits of the joint venture company that is due to nonresidents and include the estimate in direct investment income debits for the 2018 and future balance of payments statistics.	March 2019	Achieved
H	Multiply the total volume of oil exported by US\$15.00 under the TFA and include the amount in current transfers debits until the total value of the transfers is US\$3.028 billion.	Ongoing	Achieved
H	Contact the MOP and the MOF for information on default balances and liquidation damages for each year under the TFA.	Ongoing	Achieved
H	Include the net change in the value of default balances for each year in the financial account under accounts payable.	Ongoing	Information on the payment of default balances was received during the 2019 mission. A separation of payments into amount paid in 2018 and the amount paid in 2017 is required. The separation of the payments into the amount paid for interest and the amount paid for
H	Include the value of liquidation damages in primary income account under interest payments.	Ongoing	

Priority	Action/Milestone	Target Completion Date	Status April 22, 2019
			principal amounts are also required.
H	Contact the MOP and the MOF for information and details of the amended TFA, including implementation date and modify the recording of the transfers under the agreement if required.	March 2019	Achieved
H	Obtain data on noncash grants from the Customs Services on a continuous basis.	Ongoing	Achieved
M	Revise the ratio used to adjust estimates of humanitarian aid on a continuous basis to reflect new data, when received.	Ongoing	Achieved
M	Revise the 2014 balance of payments statistics to include an estimate of noncash humanitarian aid.	January 2019	
<b>PR</b>	Include data on noncash humanitarian aid from the Customs Services in the balance of payments for 2018 and future estimates.	March 2019	Achieved
H	Obtain from the Customs Services available data on the price and the volume of imported items and re-estimate total value of imports for inclusion in the balance of payments statistics.	Ongoing	Achieved
H	Nominate staff involved in the compilation of ESS for training courses on ESS at the IMF's Africa Training Institute and the IMF's HQs.	Ongoing	Ongoing

## Appendix III. Status of the 2016 Action Plan

DQAF	Outcomes	Verifiable Indicators	Time Frame	Comments	
<b>1. Legal and Institutional Environment</b>					
0.1.1	M	Strengthen BSS Act to enable collection of data from the nonbank sector. NBS shares the data with the BSS.	BSS Act strengthened. Data shared.	Ongoing	To be done the BSS & The NBS shares data
0.1.1	L	Demarcate respective mandates of the BSS and the NBS in ESS compilation and dissemination by signing a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to share the data.	MOU signed	April 2017	The compilers will follow up
0.1.2	M	Have a monthly MMSWG meeting for promoting cooperation among agencies and sharing information	Meeting minutes reported.	Ongoing	Meetings were conducted but has stopped
0.1.2	M	(NBS) Share the data and methodologies with the BSS to ensure proper process and data quality in compiling ESS and for more integration between ESS data and the rest of the world account data in the <i>System of National Accounts 2008 (2008 SNA)</i> .	ESS data are consistent with 2008 SNA data	Ongoing	
0.2.1	M	Continue conducting internal workshops for sharing knowledge and experiences among the relevant BSS staff.	Internal workshop held.	Ongoing	Ongoing but limited
<b>2. Data Collection and Compilation</b>					
3.1.1	H	Follow up with 12 non-reporting commercial banks to report ITRS data properly and encourage them to submit them electronically to the BSS.	Data received electronically.	Ongoing	Non-reporting banks has decreased to 6 but only 5 report electronically
3.2.1	L	(NBS) Monitor cases of DI abroad; and survey these investors to capture information on their external transactions and positions.	Data on DI abroad collected.	Ongoing	Not yet
3.2.1	H	Follow up with major foreign exchange bureaus to obtain more detailed information to avoid double counting of reported ITRS data.	Meetings done.	July 2016	Done

DQAF		Outcomes	Verifiable Indicators	Time Frame	Comments
3.1.1	H	Request data from the BSS SWIFT Unit on receipts transactions from nonresidents.	Data submitted to BOPU.	July 2016	Done
3.2.1	H	Incorporate into 2015 balance of payments data all corrections especially for informal trade data and submit these data via ICS.	Data submitted to STA.	August 2016	Done
3.3.2	H	Revise 2012 and 2013 balance of payments data accordingly and submit the balance of payments data via ICS.	Data submitted to STA.	August 2016	Not yet.
3.1.1	H	Complete the list of the international organizations and foreign embassies in South Sudan and send the related questionnaire to obtain data on their transactions with residents.	Data collected.	August 2016	Done
3.1.1	H	Collect data on remuneration paid to resident staff by international agencies and foreign embassies operating in South Sudan.	Data collected.	September 2016	Done
3.1.1	H	Collect data on the transactions between residents and the foreign embassies/United Nations agencies operating in South Sudan.	Data collected.	September 2016	Not Yet
3.1.1	H	Select enterprises for conducting a preliminary DI survey.	Selection finished.	Ongoing	Not Yet
3.2.1	H	Contact the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Investment to finalize the prepared list of enterprises.	List finalized.	Ongoing	Done
3.2.1	H	Select hotels for conducting a preliminary hotel survey.	Selection finished.	August 2016	Not Yet
3.2.1	H	Complete the list of companies for DI survey and hotel survey, respectively.	Lists completed.	August 2016	Not Yet
3.1.1	H	Send the hotel survey questionnaires to hotels in South Sudan.	Survey completed.	September 2016	Not Yet
3.1.1	H	Collect monthly information from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MOFEP) on their financial account transactions and positions with nonresidents (loans, trade credits and advances), and on current and capital account	Coverage of general government improved.	July 2016	Information was requested during the 2019 mission. but discussions

DQAF		Outcomes	Verifiable Indicators	Time Frame	Comments
		transactions (payments for goods and services purchased abroad, interest on loans and trade credits, and current and capital transfers).			
3.2.1	H	Cooperate with the Ministry of Petroleum and Mining to estimate the petroleum export handled directly by the oil companies.	Data estimated.	August 2016	Done
3.1.1	H	Conduct an annual DI survey based on the list of registered DI enterprises, obtained from the Ministry of Justice.	DI survey implemented.	November 2016	Not yet
3.1.1	H	Follow up with commercial banks to remove interest from financial services (obtain the data interest paid and received on loans and deposits) and add to primary income.	Data revised.	October 2016	Not yet
3.1.1	M	Follow up with commercial banks to confirm their holdings of nonresident issued securities.	Data obtained.		ESS Unit will review with Monetary Sector
3.1.1	H	Follow up with commercial banks to confirm their reporting of transactions in deposits abroad for other sectors.	Data reported.		ESS Unit will review with Monetary Sector
3.1.1	M	Follow up with commercial banks to obtain data on distributed branch profits and exclude them from transfers.	Data obtained.		ESS Unit will review with Monetary Sector
3.1.1	H	Obtain ITRS data from the BSS SWIFT section in electronic format in addition to the hard copy.	Data received electronically.	November 2016	Not Yet
3.1.1	M	Collect data on landing, navigation, cargo handling, and other airport-related fees paid by nonresidents from the relevant entities.	Data collected.	November 2016	Information was received during the 2019 mission following discussions with the Civil Aviation Department.
3.1.1	H	Collect data on goods and services to nonresident enterprises such as airlines and other transport operators from the relevant entities.	Data collected.	November 2016	Estimate of fuel to non-residence airlines developed during the 2019 mission

DQAF		Outcomes	Verifiable Indicators	Time Frame	Comments
3.1.1	M	Survey resident bus transport operators for data on their transactions with nonresidents such as their purchases of goods and services from nonresident as well as their earnings from providing services to nonresidents. Survey nonresident bus transport operators for data on their transactions with residents such as their purchases of goods and services from resident as well as their earnings from providing services to residents.	Data collected.	November 2016	Not Yet
3.1.1	M	Conduct a survey of both residents and nonresidents crossing borders for relevant data upon the form finalized during the mission.	Survey completed.	November 2016	Not yet
3.1.1	M	Conduct a survey of departing airline passengers to obtain information on the average expenditure per day of nonresidents in South Sudan as well as on the average planned expenditure per day of residents traveling abroad. The survey should also request data on the average length of stays of visitors and resident travelers abroad.	Survey completed and data used for estimating travel.	November 2016	A work program for a visitor expenditure survey was developed during the 2019 mission.
3.1.2	M	Follow up with the MOFEP to obtain the official current and capital aid in kind and cash.	Data obtained.	November 2016	Completed during the 2019 mission
3.1.2	M	Follow up with NBS to estimate the current remittances and capital remittances for other sectors.	Data estimated.	November 2016	Not Yet
3.1.1	M	Explore the data source for international investment position.		Ongoing	Not Yet

Note: Priority Scale: H – High; M – Medium; L – Low.

## Appendix IV. Draft Instrument to Survey Departing Visitors



### **BANK OF SOUTH SUDAN (BSS)**

#### **Directorate of Banking Supervision, Research and Statistics**

Plot No. 1, Block D 6, P. O. Box 136, Juba Market, Juba, South Sudan

### **Survey of Departing Visitors**

#### **Dear Respondent,**

The Bank of South Sudan, Research and Statistics Department, compiles reports on the external sector statistics for South Sudan; this is an international practice. This survey is one of the data sources which will improve data coverage.

In this regard, the Bank of South Sudan is kindly requesting you to provide the following information:

- 1- Country of origin.....
- 2- Number of nights spent in South Sudan.....
- 3- Number of persons travelling with you.....
- 4- Where did you received accommodation:
  - a) Hotel.....
  - b) Quest house.....
  - c) Others/ private rent.....
- 5- How much did you spend in South Sudan including accommodation:
  - a) US\$.....
  - b) SSP.....

The Bank of South Sudan do appreciate your cooperation in completing the survey.