



STATISTICS

Government Finance and Public Sector Debt Statistics in the Arab Countries: Key Challenges and Priorities

ARABSTAT VIRTUAL MEETING

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OUTLINE

- Current state of play
- Key challenges
- The way forward

Current State of Play

Status of GFS in MENA Countries

	Most recent year for GFS submission to STA	Versions of GFS manuals being used	Balance Sheet	IFMIS ¹
Afghanistan	2017	GFSM 2014	No	Yes
Algeria	2011		No	N/A
Bahrain	2020		No	
Djibouti	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Egypt	2015	GFSM 2001	N/A	N/A
Iraq	2019	GFSM 2014	No	No
Jordan	2020	GFSM 2014	Financial BCG	Yes
Kuwait	2018		No	
Lebanon	2020	GFSM 1986	No	N/A
Libya	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Morocco	2019	GFSM 2001	No	Yes
Oman	2013		No	
Saudi Arabia	2020		No	
Sudan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Syria	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tunisia	2012	GFSM 1986	No	No
United Arab Emirates	2020		No	
West Bank and Gaza	2019	GFSM 2001	No	No
Yemen	2014	GFSM 2001	No	No

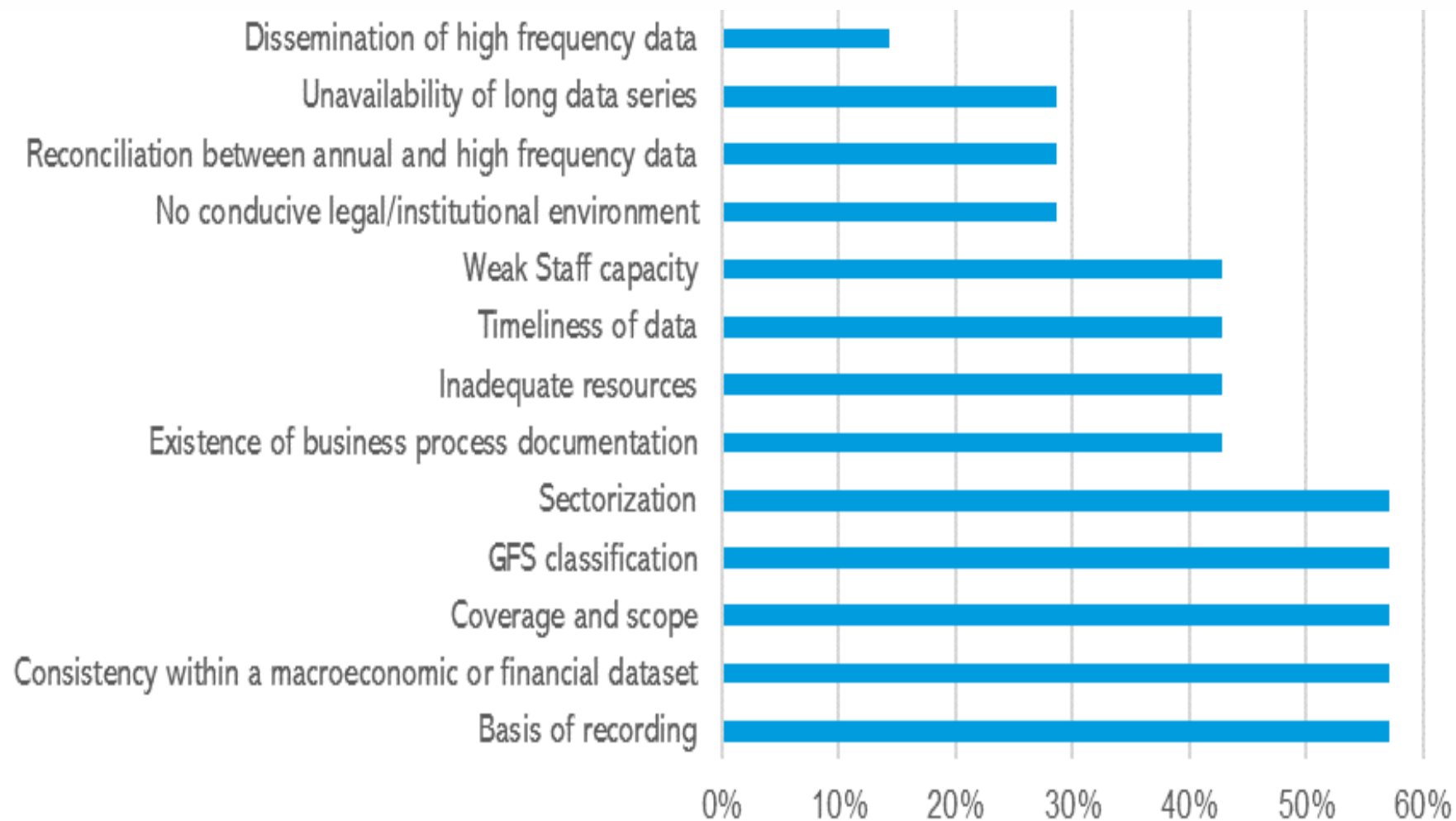
¹ Integrated financial management information system

Status of PSDS in MENA countries

Countries	Reported to the WB Quarterly Public Sector Debt (as of March 21, 2021)	Instrument coverage	Institutional coverage of debt data
Afghanistan	No	Loans	BCG
Algeria	No	N/A	N/A
Bahrain	No	N/A	N/A
Djibouti	No	N/A	N/A
Egypt	No	Loans, debt securities, other types of borrowings	GG**
Iraq	No	Loans, debt securities	BCG
Jordan	No	Loans, debt securities, other accounts payables	CG*
Lebanon	Yes	Loans, debt securities, other accounts payables	BCG
Libya	No	N/A	N/A
Morocco	Yes	Loans, debt securities, insurance payment and standard guarantee schemes	GG
Oman	No	N/A	N/A
Saudi Arabia	Yes (latest: 2021Q2)	Loans, debt securities	BCG
Sudan	No	N/A	N/A
Syria	No	N/A	N/A
Tunisia	No	N/A	N/A
United Arab Emirates	No	N/A	N/A
West Bank and Gaza	No	Loans, debt securities, insurance payment and standard guarantee schemes, other accounts payable.	CG
Yemen	No	Loans	N/A

Key Challenges

Key challenges faced by countries in the region

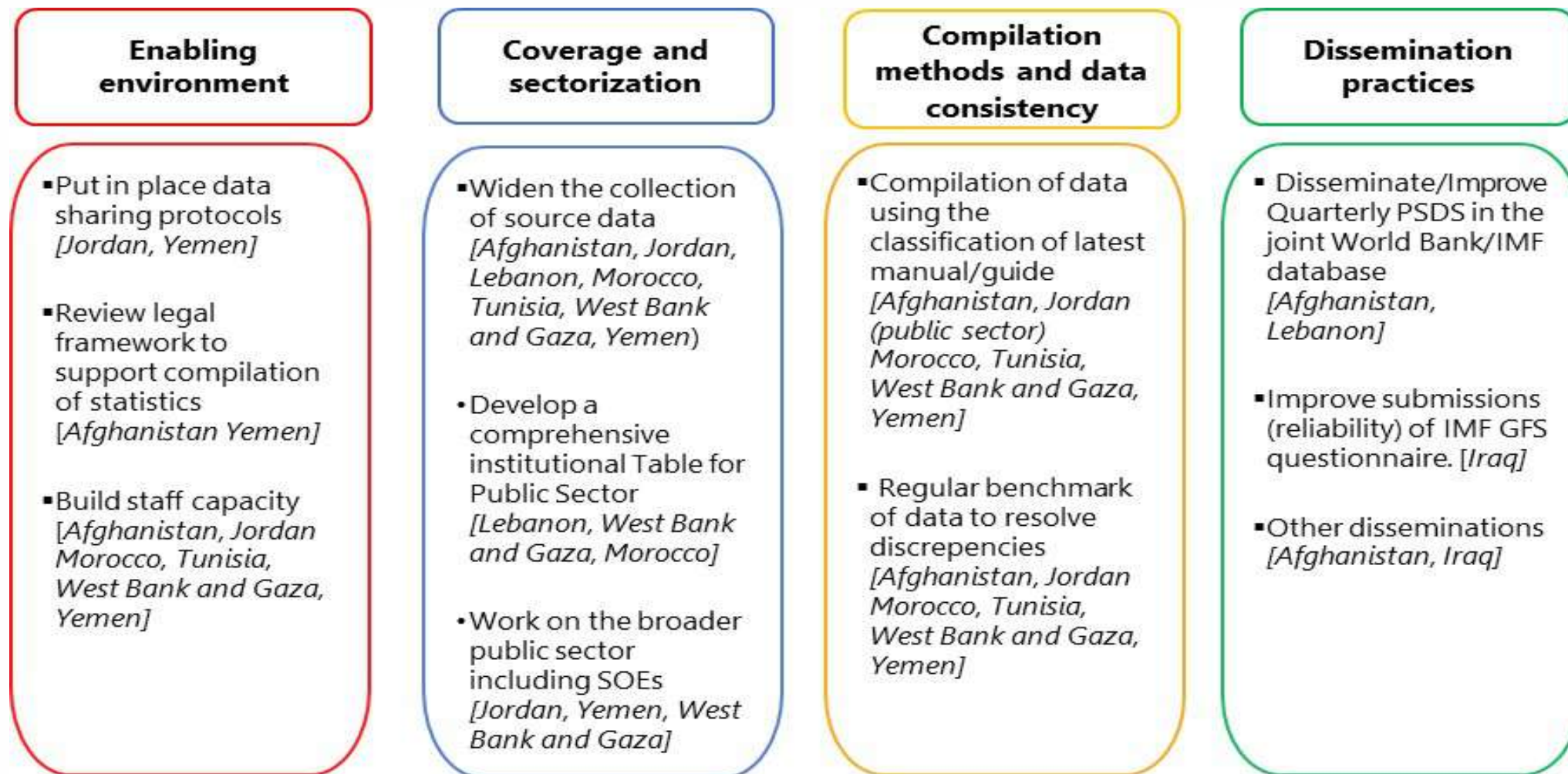


Most common challenges

- Limited institutional and debt instrument coverage
- Inadequate sectorization of institutional units
- Large statistical discrepancies between above-the-line and below-the-line transactions.
- Lack of an appropriate basis of recording
- Difficulty in applying the economic and functional classifications according to the *GFSM 2014*

The Way Forward

Four main priorities as identified by surveyed countries



Source: METAC GFS Survey December 2020 and METAC Regional Note on Government Finance and Public Sector Debt Statistics in METAC Countries: State of Play, Key Challenges, and Priorities Ahead , September 2021

....and the way forward

- All surveyed countries expressed the need for technical assistance to enhance compilation and dissemination of GFS and PSDS in the region in line with the latest international standards .
- STA will continue to work with country authorities, the Arab Monetary Fund and the Middle East Regional Technical Assistance Center in addressing country specific challenges and the data needs of policymakers in the region.
- Flexible CD delivery modalities, would need to be tailored to countries' current situations, priorities and evolving needs.
- Building synergies and leveraging the work done by other CD providers will be essential for sustained improvements.



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Thank you!

Questions?