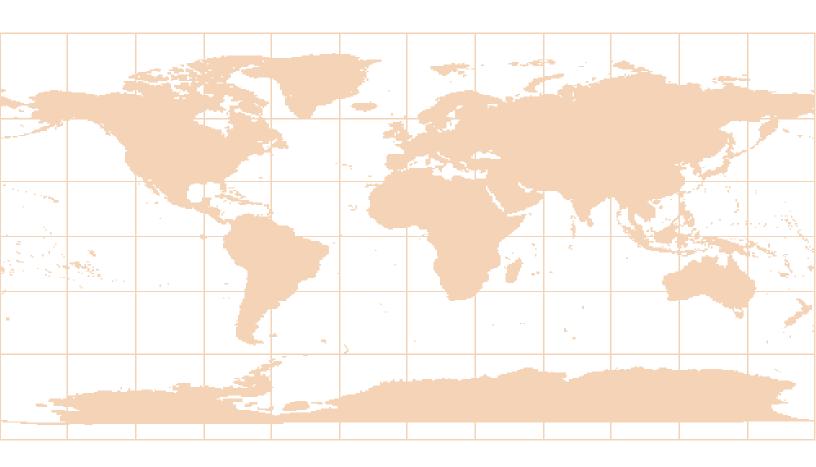# Statistical annex

Country classification

Data sources, country classifications and aggregation methodology

The statistical annex contains a set of data that the *World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP)* employs to delineate trends in various dimensions of the world economy.

Data sources

The annex was prepared by the Development Policy and Analysis Division (DPAD) of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (UN/DESA). It is based on information obtained from the Statistics Division and the Population Division of UN/DESA, as well as from the five United Nations regional commissions, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and national and private sources. Estimates for the most recent years were made by DPAD in consultation with the regional commissions, UNCTAD, UNWTO and participants in Project LINK, an international collaborative research group for econometric modelling coordinated jointly by DPAD and the University of Toronto. Forecasts for 2013 and 2014 are primarily based on the World Economic Forecasting Model of DPAD, with support from Project LINK.

Data presented in *WESP* may differ from those published by other organizations for a series of reasons, including differences in timing, sample composition and aggregation methods. Historical data may differ from those in previous editions of *WESP* because of updating and changes in the availability of data for individual countries.

Country classifications

For analytical purposes, *WESP* classifies all countries of the world into one of three broad categories: developed economies, economies in transition and developing economies. The composition of these groupings, specified in tables A, B and C, is intended to reflect basic economic country conditions. Several countries (in particular the economies in transition) have characteristics that could place them in more than one category; however, for purposes of analysis, the groupings have been made mutually exclusive. Within each broad category, some subgroups are defined based either on geographical location or on ad hoc criteria, such as the subgroup of "major developed economies", which is based on the membership of the Group of Seven. Geographical regions for developing economies are as follows: Africa, East Asia, South Asia, Western Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean.[a]

In parts of the analysis, a distinction is made between fuel exporters and fuel importers from among the economies in transition and the developing countries. An economy is classified as a fuel exporter if the share of fuel exports in its total merchandise

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[a] Names and composition of geographical areas follow those specified in the statistical paper entitled "Standard country or area codes for statistical use" (ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/49/Rev. 4).

exports is greater than 20 per cent and the level of fuel exports is at least 20 per cent higher than that of the country's fuel imports. This criterion is drawn from the share of fuel exports in the total value of world merchandise trade. Fuels include coal, oil and natural gas (table D).

For other parts of the analysis, countries have been classified by their level of development as measured by per capita gross national income (GNI). Accordingly, countries have been grouped as high-income, upper middle income, lower middle income and low-income (table E). To maintain compatibility with similar classifications used elsewhere, the threshold levels of GNI per capita are those established by the World Bank. Countries with less than $1,025 GNI per capita are classified as low-income countries, those with between $1,026 and $4,035 as lower middle income countries, those with between $4,036 and $12,475 as upper middle income countries, and those with incomes of more than $12,476 as high-income countries. GNI per capita in dollar terms is estimated using the World Bank Atlas method,[b] and the classification in table E is based on data for 2011.

The list of the least developed countries (LDCs) is decided upon by the United Nations Economic and Social Council and, ultimately, by the General Assembly, on the basis of recommendations made by the Committee for Development Policy. The basic criteria for inclusion require that certain thresholds be met with regard to per capita GNI, a human assets index and an economic vulnerability index.[c] As at 30 November 2012, there were 48 LDCs (table F).

WESP also makes reference to the group of heavily indebted poor countries (HIPCs), which are considered by the World Bank and IMF as part of their debt-relief initiative (the Enhanced HIPC Initiative).[d] In September 2012, there were 39 HIPCs (see table G).

Aggregation methodology

Aggregate data are either sums or weighted averages of individual country data. Unless otherwise indicated, multi-year averages of growth rates are expressed as compound annual percentage rates of change. The convention followed is to omit the base year in a multi-year growth rate. For example, the 10-year average growth rate for the decade of the 2000s would be identified as the average annual growth rate for the period from 2001 to 2010.

WESP utilizes exchange-rate conversions of national data in order to aggregate output of individual countries into regional and global totals. The growth of output in each group of countries is calculated from the sum of gross domestic product (GDP) of individual countries measured at 2005 prices and exchange rates. Data for GDP in 2005 in national currencies were converted into dollars (with selected adjustments) and extended forwards and backwards in time using changes in real GDP for each country. This method supplies a reasonable set of aggregate growth rates for a period of about 15 years, centred on 2005.

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[b]   See http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications.

[c]   *Handbook on the Least Developed Country Category: Inclusion, Graduation and Special Support Measures* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.II.A.9). Available from http://www.un.org/esa/analysis/devplan/cdppublications/2008cdphandbook.pdf.

[d]   IMF, Debt Relief Under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative. Available from http://www.imf.org/external/np/exr/facts/pdf/hipc.pdf.

The exchange-rate based method differs from the one mainly applied by the IMF and the World Bank for their estimates of world and regional economic growth, which is based on purchasing power parity (PPP) weights. Over the past two decades, the growth of world gross product (WGP) on the basis of the exchange-rate based approach has been below that based on PPP weights. This is because developing countries, in the aggregate, have seen significantly higher economic growth than the rest of the world in the 1990s and 2000s and the share in WGP of these countries is larger under PPP measurements than under market exchange rates.

Table A
Developed economies

Europe		Other countries	Major developed economies (G7)
European Union	*Other Europe*		
EU-15	Iceland	Australia	Canada
Austria	Norway	Canada	Japan
Belgium	Switzerland	Japan	France
Denmark		New Zealand	Germany
Finland		United States	Italy
France			United Kingdom
Germany			United States
Greece			
Ireland			
Italy			
Luxembourg			
Netherlands			
Portugal			
Spain			
Sweden			
United Kingdom			
New EU member States			
Bulgaria			
Cyprus			
Czech Republic			
Estonia			
Hungary			
Latvia			
Lithuania			
Malta			
Poland			
Romania			
Slovakia			
Slovenia			

Table B
Economies in transition

South-Eastern Europe	*Commonwealth of Independent States and Georgia*[a]
Albania Bosnia and Herzegovina Croatia Montenegro Serbia The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Armenia Azerbaijan Belarus Georgia[a] Kazakhstan Kyrgyzstan Republic of Moldova Russian Federation Tajikistan Turkmenistan Ukraine Uzbekistan

a Georgia officially left the Commonwealth of Independent States on 18 August 2009. However, its performance is discussed in the context of this group of countries for reasons of geographic proximity and similarities in economic structure.

Table C
Developing economies by region[a]

Africa	Asia	Latin America and the Caribbean
North Africa	**East Asia**	**Caribbean**
Algeria	Brunei Darussalam	Barbados
Egypt	China	Cuba
Libya[b]	Hong Kong SAR[c]	Dominican Republic
Morocco	Indonesia	Guyana
Tunisia	Malaysia	Haiti
Sub-Saharan Africa	Myanmar	Jamaica
Central Africa	Papua New Guinea	Trinidad and Tobago
Cameroon	Philippines	**Mexico and Central America**
Central African Republic	Republic of Korea	Costa Rica
Chad	Singapore	El Salvador
Congo	Taiwan Province of China	Guatemala
Equatorial Guinea	Thailand	Honduras
Gabon	Viet Nam	Mexico
Sao Tome and Prinicipe	**South Asia**	Nicaragua
East Africa	Bangladesh	Panama
Burundi	India	**South America**
Comoros	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Argentina
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Nepal	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
Djibouti	Pakistan	Brazil
Eritrea	Sri Lanka	Chile
Ethiopia	**Western Asia**	Colombia
Kenya	Bahrain	Ecuador
Madagascar	Iraq	Paraguay
Rwanda	Israel	Peru
Somalia	Jordan	Uruguay
Sudan	Kuwait	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Uganda	Lebanon	
United Republic of Tanzania	Oman	
Southern Africa	Qatar	
Angola	Saudi Arabia	
Botswana	Syrian Arab Republic	
Lesotho	Turkey	
Malawi	United Arab Emirates	
Mauritius	Yemen	
Mozambique		
Namibia		
South Africa		
Zambia		
Zimbabwe		
West Africa		
Benin		
Burkina Faso		
Cape Verde		
Côte d'Ivoire		
Gambia		
Ghana		
Guinea		
Guinea-Bissau		
Liberia		
Mali		
Mauritania		
Niger		
Nigeria		
Senegal		
Sierra Leone		
Togo		

a Economies systematically monitored by the Global Economic Monitoring Unit of DPAD.
b The name of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya was officially changed to Libya on 16 September 2011.
c Special Administrative Region of China.

Table D
Fuel-exporting countries

| Economies in transition | Developing countries | | | | |
	Latin America and the Caribbean	Africa	East Asia	South Asia	Western Asia

Azerbaijan
Kazakhstan
Russian Federation
Turkmenistan
Uzbekistan
	Bolivia
	  (Plurinational State of)
	Colombia
	Ecuador
	Trinidad and Tobago
	Venezuela
	  (Bolivarian Republic of)
		Algeria
		Angola
		Cameroon
		Chad
		Congo
		Côte d'Ivoire
		Egypt
		Equatorial Guinea
		Gabon
		Libya
		Nigeria
		Sudan
			Brunei Darussalam
			Indonesia
			Viet Nam
				Iran (Islamic
				  Republic of)
					Bahrain
					Iraq
					Kuwait
					Oman
					Qatar
					Saudi Arabia
					United Arab
					  Emirates
					Yemen

Table E
Economies by per capita GNI in 2011[a]

High-income	Upper middle income	Lower middle income	Low-income
Australia	Algeria	Albania[d]	Bangladesh
Austria	Angola[c]	Armenia	Benin
Bahrain	Argentina	Bolivia (Plurinational	Burkina Faso
Barbados	Azerbaijan	State of)	Burundi
Belgium	Belarus	Cameroon	Central African Republic
Brunei Darussalam	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Cape Verde	Chad
Canada	Botswana	Congo	Comoros
Croatia	Brazil	Côte d'Ivoire	Democratic Republic of
Cyprus	Bulgaria	Djibouti	the Congo
Czech Republic	Chile	Egypt	Eritrea
Denmark	China	El Salvador	Ethiopia
Equatorial Guinea	Colombia	Georgia	Gambia
Estonia	Costa Rica	Ghana	Guinea
Finland	Cuba	Guatemala	Guinea-Bissau
France	Dominican Republic	Guyana	Haiti
Germany	Ecuador	Honduras	Kenya
Greece	Gabon	India	Kyrgyzstan
Hong Kong SAR[b]	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Indonesia	Liberia
Hungary	Jamaica	Iraq	Madagascar
Iceland	Jordan	Lesotho	Malawi
Ireland	Kazakhstan	Morocco	Mali
Israel	Latvia	Nicaragua	Mauritania[d]
Italy	Lebanon	Niger	Mozambique
Japan	Libya	Nigeria	Myanmar
Kuwait	Lithuania	Pakistan	Nepal
Montenegro	Malaysia	Paraguay	Niger
Luxembourg	Mauritius	Philippines	Rwanda
Malta	Mexico	Republic of Moldova	Sierra Leone
Netherlands	Namibia	Sao Tome and Prinicipe	Somalia
New Zealand	Panama	Senegal	Tajikistan
Norway	Papua New Guinea	Sri Lanka	Togo
Oman	Peru	Sudan	Uganda
Poland	Romania	Syrian Arab Republic	United Republic of
Portugal	Russian Federation	Ukraine	Tanzania
Qatar	Serbia	Uzbekistan	Zimbabwe
Republic of Korea	South Africa	Viet Nam	
Saudi Arabia	Thailand	Yemen	
Singapore	The former Yugoslav	Zambia	
Slovakia	Republic of Macedonia		
Slovenia	Tunisia		
Spain	Turkey		
Sweden	Turkmenistan[c]		
Switzerland	Uruguay		
Taiwan Province of	Venezuela		
China	(Bolivarian Republic of)		
Trinidad and Tobago			
United Arab Emirates			
United Kingdom			
United States			

a Economies systematically monitored for the World Economic Situation and Prospects report and included in the United Nations' global economic forecast.
b Special Administrative Region of China.
c Indicates the country has been shifted upward by one category from previous year's classification.
d Indicates the country has been shifted downward by one category from previous year's classification.

Table F
Least developed countries

As of November 2011				
Africa	*East Asia*	*South Asia*	*Western Asia*	*Latin America and the Caribbean*
Angola	Cambodia[a]	Afghanistan[a]	Yemen	Haiti
Benin	Kiribati[a]	Bangladesh		
Burkina Faso	Lao People's	Bhutan[a]		
Burundi	Democratic Republic[a]	Nepal		
Central African Republic	Myanmar			
Chad	Samoa[a, b]			
Comoros	Solomon Islands[a]			
Democratic Republic	Timor Leste[a]			
of the Congo	Tuvalu[a]			
Djibouti	Vanuatu[a]			
Equatorial Guinea				
Eritrea				
Ethiopia				
Gambia				
Guinea				
Guinea-Bissau				
Lesotho				
Liberia				
Madagascar				
Malawi				
Mali				
Mauritania				
Mozambique				
Niger				
Rwanda				
Sao Tome and Principe				
Senegal				
Sierra Leone				
Somalia				
Sudan				
Togo				
Uganda				
United Republic of Tanzania				
Zambia				

Note: At its sixty-seventh session, the United Nations General Assembly will formally include the Republic of South Sudan, which became a State Member of the United Nations on 14 July 2011, in the least developed country category.

a   Not included in the *WESP* discussion because of insufficient data.
b   Samoa will graduate from the list of the least developed countries in January 2014.

Table G
Heavily indebted poor countries

As of September 2012		
Post-completion point HIPCs[a]	*Interim HIPCs*[b]	*Pre-decision point HIPCs*[c]
Afghanistan	Chad	Eritrea
Benin	Comoros	Somalia
Bolivia		Sudan
Burkina Faso		
Burundi		
Cameroon		
Central African Republic		
Congo		
Côte d'Ivoire		
Democratic Republic of the Congo		
Ethiopia		
Gambia		
Ghana		
Guinea		
Guinea-Bissau		
Guyana		
Haiti		
Honduras		
Liberia		
Madagascar		
Malawi		
Mali		
Mauritania		
Mozambique		
Nicaragua		
Niger		
Rwanda		
Sao Tome and Principe		
Senegal		
Sierra Leone		
Togo		
Uganda		
United Republic of Tanzania		
Zambia		

Note: South Sudan is not eligible or potentially eligible for debt relief under the HIPC Initiative given that, as a newly created country, it cannot meet the HIPC indebtedness criterion which is bound by the end-2004 and end-2010 cut-off dates. See, IMF, "Eligibility to use the Fund's facilities for concessional financing: Republic of South Sudan", 1 August 2012, available from http://www.imf.org/external/np/pp/eng/2012/080112.pdf.

a   Countries that have qualified for irrevocable debt relief under the HIPC Initiative.
b   Countries that have qualified for assistance under the HIPC Initiative (that is to say, have reached decision point), but have not yet reached completion point.
c   Countries that are potentially eligible and may wish to avail themselves of the HIPC Initiative or the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI).

Table H
Small island developing States

American Samoa	Mauritius
Anguilla	Micronesia (Federated States of)
Antigua and Barbuda	Montserrat
Aruba	Nauru
Bahamas	Netherlands Antilles
Barbados	New Caledonia
Belize	Niue
British Virgin Islands	Palau
Cape Verde	Papua New Guinea
Commonwealth of Northern Marianas	Puerto Rico
Comoros	Samoa
Cook Islands	Sao Tome and Principe
Cuba	Seychelles
Dominica	Singapore
Dominican Republic	Solomon Islands
Fiji	St. Kitts and Nevis
French Polynesia	St. Lucia
Grenada	St. Vincent and the Grenadines
Guam	Suriname
Guinea-Bissau	Timor-Leste
Guyana	Tonga
Haiti	Trinidad and Tobago
Jamaica	Tuvalu
Kiribati	U.S. Virgin Islands
Maldives	Vanuatu
Marshall Islands	

Table I
Landlocked developing countries

Afghanistan	Republic of Moldova
Armenia	Mongolia
Azerbaijan	Nepal
Bhutan	Niger
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Paraguay
Botswana	Rwanda
Burkina Faso	Swaziland
Burundi	Tajikistan
Central African Republic	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Chad	Turkmenistan
Ethiopia	Uganda
Kazakhstan	Uzbekistan
Kyrgystan	Zambia
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Zimbabwe
Lesotho	
Malawi	
Mali	