Joint measurement and policy workshop on illicit financial flows

Data as policy to curb IFFs

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Geneva, Switzerland



Overview

- 1. IFF estimates: what do data tell us?
- 2. Why are data on IFFs important?
- 3. Policy action: data?



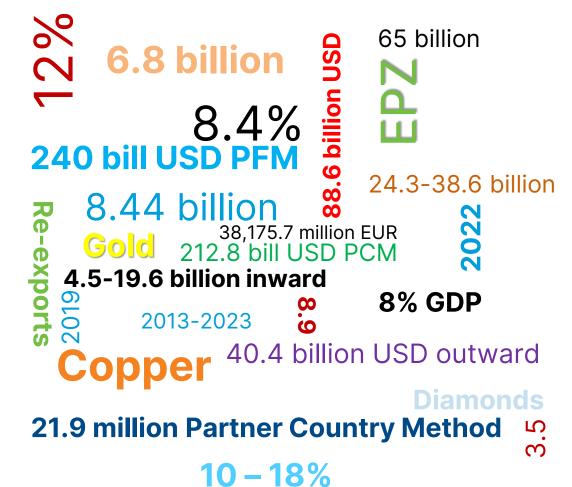




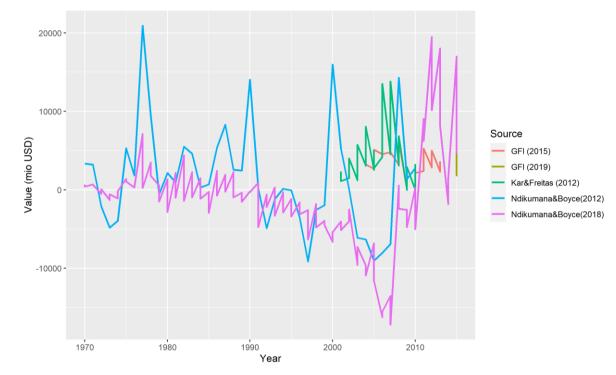
> IFF estimates: What do data tell us?

> Estimates, estimates, guessestimates





Various estimates of illicit financial flows, or related concepts, for Egypt







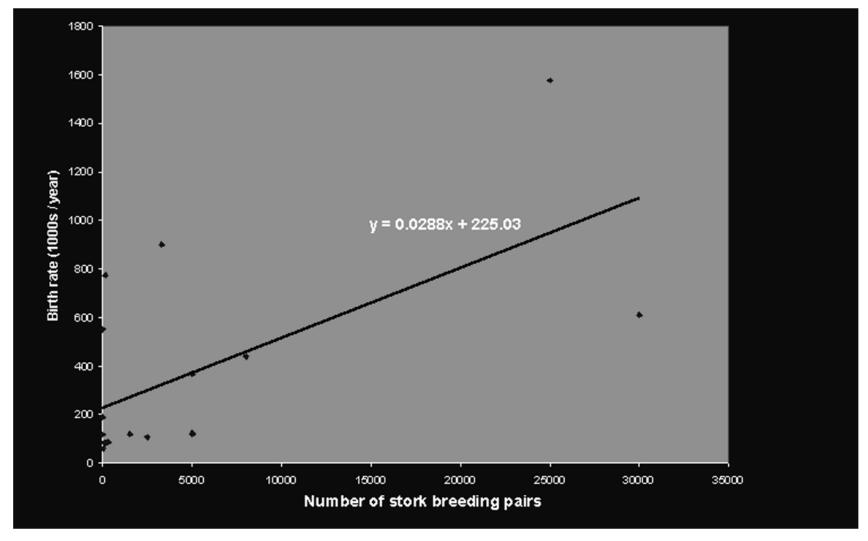


Fig 1. How the number of human births varies with stork populations in 17 European countries.

> Validation



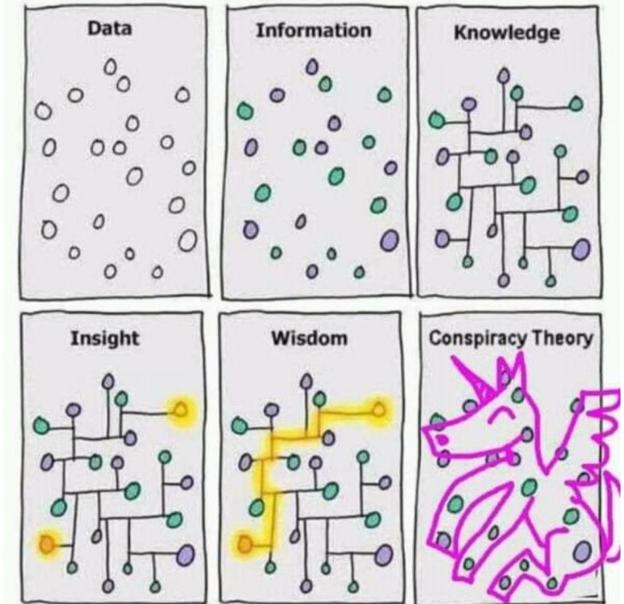
- Data sources
- Data
- Methods
- Results



Why are data (on IFFs) important?

> From data to wisdom





> Statistics on tax and commercial IFFs



> IFF metrics can:



- Be essential tools for guiding policy makers and monitoring progress on SDG 16.4 (A/RES/78/140)
- prioritize efficient allocation of resources, pointing at which source is most prone to originate IFFs
- unlock analytical potential of existing data
- help prevention, detection, investigation
- support national risk assessment on money laundering and financing of terrorism (ML/TF) and mandatory Mutual Evaluation processes
- enhance transparency and accountability at both institutional and market levels.

> Statistics on tax and commercial IFFs





Policy action: data?



Policy action: data!



Allan Mukungu, ECA 5 Feb 2025

(5) Data is there



> Policy decision, what does it take?



Official, robust statistics

Processes

NSO at the heart of TWG

Reliability, Transparency, Independence GSBPM, QAF, **Fundamental** Principles

Interoperability, Infrastructure, Legal framework

Statistics

Data sources

Users

Enhance related statistics, e.g., trade statistics; break down HS codes

Administrative, Statistical, Citizen science (?) Feedback loop with analysis, policy, decision-making



Fast or Far?

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If you want to go fast, go alone.

If you want to go far, go together.

> Let's go together



- Awareness raising
 - Conferences
 - Action plan
 - Results
- Communication (3x)
 - Action plan
 - National coordination mechanism
 - International collaboration
- Political will (3x)
 - National coordination mechanism
 - International collaboration
 - Champions

https://unctad.org/statistics/illicit-financial-flows

