Data Sharing and Communication of Statistics, the Korean Experience

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Outline

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Introduction
Data Sharing

∨ Background
   ∨ Global financial crisis in 2008
   ∨ Implementation of international statistical standards
   ∨ Increased demand for the more accurate and detailed data to fill the existing data gaps

∨ Data sharing becomes an important albeit challenging issue
   ∨ Use of information by more than one organization or individual
   ∨ Reduce the reporting burdens and compiling costs
Smarter communication

- How to provide statistical information to users is just as important as how to produce reliable statistics.

Utilize more diverse communication channels and increase interactions with statistics users.

- Statistical website
- Meeting with the market and the public
- Press release, Interview, Background briefing
- Metadata
Data Sharing in Korea
Legal Foundation for Data Sharing in Korea

- All statistical activities in Korea must be carried out in accordance with the Statistics Act
  - Approval for compiling statistics
  - Obligation to report a designated statistical survey
  - Confidentiality
  - Prohibition of the use of data for other than statistical purposes
  - Consultation and approval of the statistical results for publication
  - Quality evaluation on official statistics
  - Use of administrative data and taxation data

- Data sharing between organizations concerned is not easy in practice
The BOK has compiled major economic statistics since 1950, based on the Bank of Korea Act. Article regarding the collection and compilation of statistics.

After the recent global financial crisis, the Act was revised to strengthen the financial stability role of the central bank.

Therefore, the demand for data sharing has increased within the BOK as well.
MOU on Financial Information Sharing

- MOU with the four financial authorities in 2009
  - Ministry of Strategy and Finance (MOSF)
  - Financial Services Commission (FSC)
  - Financial Supervisory Service (FSS)
  - Korea Deposit Insurance Corporations (KDIC)

- Revised in September 2012
  - Expand the scope of data sharing and improve the sharing procedure

- The Macroeconomic and Financial Committee is operated
MOU on Financial Information Sharing

✓ Target data to be shared
  - All periodic and occasional reports submitted by financial corporations
  - Processed data made from original reports
  - Exception: confidential data

✓ Procedure for data sharing
  - Based on official documents
  - Processed to be accomplished within the deadline
  - Make the confidential data appropriate for sharing
  - Not ask the duplicate reporting to financial corporations
MOU on Financial Information Sharing

- Information exchange via the electronic systems
  - Check the list and format of shared reports and exchange the updated information every quarter
    - BOK’s Information Process System (IPS)
    - FSS’s Financial Information Sharing System (FISS)
    - KDIC’s Financial Information Analysis System (FIAS)

- Protection of confidentiality
  - Obtain prior approvals from financial corporations
  - Take appropriate actions to ensure non-disclosure of confidential info
  - Set up regulations for the staff exposed to confidential info
MOU on Statistical Cooperation

✓ MOU with Statistics Korea in 2011

✓ Agree to strengthen the cooperation
  √ Conducting joint research
  √ Exchanging statistical compilation methods
  √ Sharing raw data

✓ Form a Statistical Cooperation Council with sub-divisions
  √ 2008 SNA Implementation division
  √ National B/S Development division
Principles of information sharing

- The two organizations will cooperate actively upon receipt of requests from each other for data provision.
- The provision of statistical data will comply with the relevant regulations of the two organizations.
- The statistical data provided should neither be used for other statistical purposes without consent of the providing party nor provided to third parties.
Data Sharing within the BOK

- BOK’s micro data system for economic statistics
  - Contain micro data collected by the BOK itself and relevant statistics from outside sources
  - Scheduled to be launched in 2013
  - Enhance the reliability and quality of statistics by making possible the systematic sharing and management of various raw data sources
  - Satisfy researchers’ needs for carrying out deeper and more flexible research
The BOK Statistical Council

- Organized by the Economic Statistics Department in July 2012
- Consult on statistical issues concerning more than one department
  - Development and improvement of statistics
  - Measures to support statistics compilation and utilization
  - Statistics quality control and management
  - Dissemination and provision of statistics
- Contribute to the promotion of information sharing between the producers and users of statistics within the BOK
- Facilitate better BOK policy decision-making and higher credibility
Communication of the BOK
ECOS website

- Has been operated since 2004
- A main channel for delivery of economic statistics to policymakers and the public in a timely and convenient manner
- Adopt new technology to present up-to-date information in a user-friendly way
- Evaluated as one of the best communication channels in Korean statistical society
The Bank of Korea

The Economic Statistics System (ECOS) is a comprehensive database that provides statistical information on various economic indicators. The system includes tables and charts that display data on monetary and liquidity aggregates, interest rates, inflation, industrial production, and more. The current account (BOP) for September 2012 shows a decrease compared to the previous month. The Business Survey Index (BSI) for October 2012 reveals positive trends in business conditions. Real gross domestic product (GDP) grew by 0.3% in the third quarter of 2012 compared to the previous quarter.
Communication of Statistics with the Public

With expert groups
- Have regular consultation meetings with national experts
- Appoint three professors as advisory board members

With the general public
- Provide lectures on economic statistics for college students in local cities
- Conduct a weekly “BOK Friday Class” program
- Hold press conferences or provide background briefings to journalists
Conclusions
Conclusions

✓ The BOK has devoted efforts to enhancing both its data sharing and its communication of statistics

✓ Way forward
  ✓ Be flexible to modify the existing data sharing agreement to the changing statistical environment
    • Building an integrated financial data reporting system, by harmonizing the report templates
  ✓ Develop the internal micro data system with continued support
  ✓ Remain ever alert and aware of up-to-date IT
  ✓ Increase the opportunities for information interchange with the public
Conclusions

- Data sharing and communication of statistics have been strengthened by the outward impulse such as the global financial crisis and the implementation of international statistical standards.

- However, they are not just a second task of the central bank, but should be one of the important main functions of modern central banks.
Thank you!