

# Comparative IFI Dataset (CifiD) – Codebook

May 2019

## 1 Basic Information

<b>countryname</b>	Country
<b>year</b>	Year of legislative change
<b>name.eng</b>	English name of IFI
<b>abbr</b>	Abbreviation for IFI
<b>estab</b>	First year of operation
<b>cess</b>	Year in which IFI was abrogated
<b>mandate</b>	Year in which IFI was mandated as fiscal watchdog
<b>active</b>	First year of activity as mandated IFI
<b>recent</b>	Most recent legislation
<b>eu</b>	EU member state at the time of legislation
<b>eurozone</b>	Eurozone member state at the time of legislation
<b>maast</b>	Subject to convergence criteria in the Maastricht Treaty
<b>twopack</b>	Compliance with Two-Pack Regulation 473/2013 (need for fiscal monitoring)
<b>veteran</b>	Veteran institution (created before 2007)
<b>homegrown</b>	Homegrown institution (absent external pressure)
<b>reform</b>	Mandated as part of wider reform on public finance framework? (1) Package of reforms (0) Legislation on IFI
<b>legaldate</b>	Date of publication of legislation
<b>inforce</b>	Date legislation entered into force

## 2 Institutional Properties of IFIs

model **Institutional model**

What is the institutional model of the IFI?

- (4) fiscal council
- (3) economic council
- (2) parliamentary budget office
- (1) attached to independent agency
- (0) other

scope **Scope of mandate**

How broad is the mandate of the IFI in relation to core objectives?

- (1) includes fiscal, macro-economic and structural policies
- (0) limited to fiscal policy

nature **Nature of the highest decision-making organ**

What is the nature of the highest decision-making organ of the IFI?

- (1) collegial
- (0) individual

media **Media impact**

Estimated media visibility and impact (OECD data)

- (1) high
- (0) low

### Evaluation

- ev01 Preparation of own fiscal forecasts
- ev02 Assessment of official forecasts
- ev03 Consistency with policy objectives of the government
- ev04 Calculation of costing of policy measures
- ev05 Monitoring compliance with fiscal rules
- ev06 Assessment of long-term sustainability of public finances
- ev07 Provision of policy recommendations

## Access to policymakers

- ap01 Forecasts are integrated/referenced in budget
- ap02 Written official briefings during the budget negotiations
- ap03 IFI leadership participates in parliamentary hearings
- ap04 Governments have to respond to assessments ('comply or explain' clause)
- ap05 IFI can stall the budget process (budget veto)

## Legal status

- st01 **Legal structure**  
What is the legal structure of the IFI?
  - (2) A separate legal entity/autonomous body
  - (1) Not a separate legal entity/autonomous body but existence of sufficient firewalls
  - (0) Not a separate legal entity/autonomous body and no firewalls
  
- st02 **Legal recognition of independence**  
How is independence of the IFI guaranteed?
  - (3) In the constitution / constitutional act
  - (2) In an act of Parliament / primary legislation
  - (1) In a secondary act / internal legislation
  - (0) It is not recognised

## Operations

- op01 **Own initiative**  
Does the IFI have the right to undertake analysis at its own initiative consistent with its mandate?
  - (1) Yes; (0) No
  
- op02 **Own work programme**  
Does the IFI have the right to determine its own work programme within the bounds of its mandate?
  - (1) Yes; (0) No

op03 **Information collection powers**

Does legislation specify information collection powers towards the government and public administration?

(1) Yes; (0) No

op04 **Right to select own staff**

Does the IFI have the right to select its own staff?

(1) Yes; (0) No

op05 **Safeguards on budget**

Are there safeguards on the IFI budget (multi-annual funding commitment, separate budget line)?

(1) Yes; (0) No

op06 **Source of income**

What is the main source of income of the IFI?

(2) Funding by an independent agency or fund

(1) Funding by state budget or parliament

(0) Government funding only / own revenues

**Leadership**

le01 **Leadership position: full-time**

Do IFI members hold full-time positions?

(2) Yes, all

(1) Yes, some

(0) No

le02 **Leadership position: remunerated**

Are IFI members remunerated?

(2) Yes, all

(1) Yes, some

(0) No, or discretionary

- le03 **Incompatibility rules at the appointment stage**  
 Are there rules on incompatibility *at the appointment stage* of IFI members so that the highest decision making organ...  
 (2) cannot be composed of members of government/parliament and industry/lobby groups  
 (1) cannot be composed of members of government/parliament  
 (0) no incompatibility rules / not specified
- le04 **Extension of incompatibility rules to relatives**  
 Are incompatibility rules extended to relatives?  
 (1) Yes; (0) No; (.a) not applicable: no incompatibility rules
- le05 **Rules preventing conflicts of interest**  
 Are there rules preventing conflicts of interest of IFI members *during term of office*?  
 (1) Yes; (0) No
- le06 **Cooling-off period after term of office**  
 Is there a period during which former IFI members are limited to work for the government or other related agencies (so-called cooling-off period)?  
 (1) Yes; (0) No

## Composition

- cm01 **Ex-officio membership**  
 Are any IFI members seconded ex officio?  
 (2) No ex-officio members  
 (1) Yes, minority of members  
 (0) Yes, all or majority of members
- cm02 **Decision-making rights about appointments**  
 Which political branches are legally involved in the final appointment decision?  
 (3) Parliament and government jointly appoint members  
 (2) Only parliament is involved  
 (1) Only government is involved  
 (0) No political body is involved

*Note: This excludes the final confirmation of candidates who have already been selected by another body, e.g. presidential approvals.*

- cm03 **Share of IFI members appointed by political branches**  
Over which share of all IFI members do political branches (parliament, government) have the final say in appointments?  
(3) All members  
(2) A majority  
(1) An equal part or minority  
(0) No members
- cm04 **Membership of policymakers**  
Are policymakers members of the IFI?  
(2) Membership with voting rights / as chair  
(1) Non-voting member  
(0) No membership
- cm05 **Inclusion of external stakeholders**  
How are external stakeholders (e.g. industry associations, interest groups) legally involved in the proposal and selection of IFI members?  
(2) Right to select and/or delegate members  
(1) Right to propose members  
(0) No codified rights
- cm06 **Inclusion of independent public agencies**  
How are independent agencies (e.g. audit office, central bank) legally involved in the proposal and selection of IFI members?  
(2) Right to select and/or delegate members  
(1) Right to propose members  
(0) No codified rights
- cm07 **Inclusion of research and advisory bodies**  
How are research and advisory bodies (e.g. research departments, other expert councils) legally involved in the proposal and selection of IFI members?  
(2) Right to select and/or delegate members  
(1) Right to propose members  
(0) No codified rights

## Term rules

te01 **Limits to the term of office of IFI members**

Are there legal limits to the duration of IFI membership?

(1) Yes; (0) No

te02 **Concurrence of term of office and election cycle**

Is it possible that the term of office of the majority of IFI members coincides with the election cycle?

(2) Yes, term length is lower than election cycle

(1) Yes, term length equals the election cycle

(0) No, term length above the election cycle

(.a) Term length is undefined

te03 **Staggered appointments**

Does the law foresee that IFI members are appointed at different points in time (staggered appointment)?

(1) Yes

(0) No

(.a) Not applicable: no board members

te04 **Renewals of IFI members' terms of office**

What is the situation regarding renewals of IFI membership?

(2) Allowed in more than one instance

(1) Limited to one instance

(0) Renewal not possible

(.a) Not specified

te05 **Rules on the dismissal of IFI members**

How can IFI members be dismissed?

(3) Dismissal not possible

(2) Dismissal possible only for objective grounds listed in the law, no discretion

(1) Objective grounds listed in the law, margin of discretion

(0) Dismissal possible, but grounds not listed in the law

(.a) No rules on dismissal defined by law

## Knowledge

- kn01 **Legal requirements for professional expertise**  
Are requirements for professional expertise (i.e. knowledge, experience) for IFI members specified in the law?  
(1) Yes; (0) No
- kn02 **Legal requirements for qualifications**  
Are requirements for qualifications (e.g. education, diploma, academic post) for IFI members specified in the law?  
(1) Yes; (0) No
- kn03 **Possibility of non-citizenship**  
Legislation on the membership of the IFI...  
(1) Does not exclude non-citizens from membership  
(0) Explicitly exclude non-citizens from membership
- kn04 **Legal option to seek external advice**  
Does the law foresee that the IFI can seek external advice?  
(1) Yes; (0) No

## Transparency

- tr01 **Periodical publications defined in legislation**  
Does the law specify that the IFI needs to periodically publish reports?  
(1) Yes; (0) No
- tr02 **Addressee of key publications**  
Who is the primary addressee of key publications of the IFI?  
(2) The public at large  
(1) Political bodies (parliament, government)  
(0) Not specified
- tr03 **Legal requirement on external audit**  
Is a regular external auditing of the financial situation foreseen by legislation?  
(1) Yes; (0) No



### 3 Indices

All sub-indices are normalised (range 0 - 1).

Inversion of item answer categories is noted by *inv()*.

<b>eval</b>	Evaluation: $ev01 + ev02 + ev03 + ev04 + ev05$
<b>acce</b>	Access to policymakers: $ap01 + ap02 + ap03 + ap04 + ap05$
<b>stat</b>	Statutory guarantees: $st01 + st02$
<b>oper</b>	Operational autonomy: $op01 + op02 + op03 + op04 + op05 + op06$
<b>lead</b>	Leadership autonomy: $le01 + le02 + le03 + le04 + le05 + le06$
<b>memb</b>	Membership safeguards: $inv(te02) + te03 + inv(te04) + te05$
<b>comp</b>	Non-political composition: $inv(cm03) + inv(cm04)$
<b>inte</b>	Integration: $cm05 + cm06 + cm07$
<b>know</b>	Knowledge level: $kn01 + kn02 + kn03 + kn04$
<b>tran</b>	Transparency: $tr01 + tr02 + tr03$

Main composite indices, range in brackets:

<b>power</b>	Index on powers (0–10): $eval + acce$
<b>indep</b>	Index on formal independence (0 – 20): $stat + oper + lead + memb + comp$
<b>profi</b>	Index on formal proficiency (0 – 10): $inte + know + tran$
<b>capacity</b>	Index on formal IFI capacity (0 – 40): $power + indep + profi$

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