

The national accounts of a Sahel country : Burkina Faso

Burkina Faso is among the poorest countries in the world and is facing major constraints on economic and social development. The country is still predominantly rural and agricultural processing ; industries and services (excluding public administration) are poorly developed.

But the National Institute of Statistics and Demography (INSD) of Burkina Faso has dedicated a team of ten people for the compilation of its national accounts and engaged in the process of catching up the production delay of such data (see Afristat paper). One major difficulty was to access to the accounting and fiscal data of the modern sector firms. The recent coordination meetings with the Directorate General of Taxes has helped oblige these companies to provide a copy of their statistical and tax returns for INSD.

Unfortunately, the 2009 floods have seriously damaged the equipment. It is hoped that the methods recently introduced to accelerate the calculation of national accounts, will cope with this further delay.