

12TH INTERNATIONAL JODI CONFERENCE

8 - 10 April 2015, New Delhi, India

**“10 Years of The JODI-Oil Database
1 Year of The JODI-Gas Database”**

Lessons Learned and The Shared Path Forward

CONCLUDING STATEMENT

The 12TH International JODI Conference was held in New Delhi, India from 8-10 April 2015. The Conference was generously hosted by the Government of India and organised by the International Energy Forum in cooperation with the JODI partner organisations: Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), the Statistical Office of the European Union (Eurostat), the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF), the International Energy Agency (IEA), the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), and the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD). The Conference benefitted from the active participation of 90 delegates representing 25 countries/economies, as well as energy data experts and market analysts from international organisations, the financial sector, media, and the industry at large.

The New Delhi conference which coincided with the 10th anniversary of JODI-Oil and the 1st anniversary of JODI-Gas was the first occasion on which users of the two strands of the data transparency initiative met in joint session.

The conference convened actors and stakeholders at various stages of the JODI data supply chain ranging from the energy companies that collect the source data, and the national administrations responsible for JODI data reporting, through to the JODI Partners responsible for collating and checking the data quality, and the data users (analysts and reporters) that monitor market trends and disseminate JODI data through their analysis to a wider audience. By bringing all of these stakeholders together, the conference facilitated communication and improved cooperation among them. Enhancement of such interaction is a vital tool in the quest to improve the functionality and reach of the Initiative.

Representatives from industry and national administrations shared their experiences in regard to the collection of complete, accurate and timely data. Discussions highlighted good practices and flagged challenges that impact goals of continuous improvement to the sustainability, timeliness and completeness of JODI data.



During the course of the conference the concept of “better data – better decisions” was strongly reinforced by anecdotal comments from the market experts present. Representatives of the Media who regularly use JODI data in their reports gave an insight into the manner in which they employ JODI data, and made suggestions for enhancements to the Initiative, including recommendations on how to enhance the visibility of JODI to a wider user-base.

Capacity building, which has always been a cornerstone of JODI activity, was addressed as a key development issue in New Delhi. Participants emphasized the need to broaden the definition beyond the accepted norm, so that in addition to teaching technical skills to individual participants, future work will also account for the need to set up and maintain appropriate structures in reporting institutions, as well as legal and institutional frameworks in JODI-reporting countries.

Reflecting on the outcome of the New Delhi conference the JODI partners reiterated their call on governments of participating countries and economies to ensure that their administrations and organisations in charge of energy data collection are properly equipped and staffed. They also emphasized the notion that governments should implement appropriate regulations to ensure that industry is fully engaged in the process and is required to regularly submit data of the required detail and format.

The 12th International JODI Conference identified the following actions for further improvement and developments of JODI:

1. Enhancement of the quality of JODI data

Countries, JODI Partners, and Industry will continue their collaborative quest to ensure complete, accurate and timely data reporting to both JODI-Oil and JODI-Gas. The JODI partners will engage in a regular and ongoing collaborative programme to fill gaps in historical data-sets. Partners will also encourage and facilitate experience-sharing among different stakeholders in the JODI data supply chain and incorporate the lessons learned from this and other JODI-user feedback to build more efficient data collection mechanisms so as to further improve JODI performance. In this regard, participants were encouraged to use the newly launched Online JODI Forum (<https://www.jodidata.org/forum>) to share their experiences. JODI partners will intensify their efforts to improve geographical coverage in regions such as Africa and South Eastern Europe.

2. Review of data reporting mechanisms

JODI stakeholders will seek to improve the overall timeliness of data submissions with a view to advancing JODI-Oil from M-2 to M-1. In the interim, the early release of key JODI data will be considered to the extent that it is practical and prudent.

3. Strengthening of capacity building efforts

Regional training sessions are recognized for their role in building the statistical capacity that underpins the development of JODI and data transparency in general. The use of online training platforms, the concept of “train-the-trainer” and “professional certifications” should all be evaluated for their potential in regard to the further development and more widespread deployment of JODI training programmes.

4. Engagement with the JODI user/energy data analytics community

In recognition of the value of ongoing engagement with JODI users, small meetings should be arranged in association with the regular Inter-Secretariat meetings / JODI Workshops, or as stand-alone events where there is evident interest. Existing links to industry, universities, and think-tanks should be strengthened and new relationships forged with a view to enlisting support in reviewing data quality.

5. Raising JODI brand-awareness

JODI and the importance of data transparency should be promoted as widely as possible. Partner organisations will actively promote JODI through their websites and social media, especially at the time that the monthly update is released. Relationships with the Media should be cultivated and Media partnerships should also be considered as a means of raising awareness of data transparency and increasing the visibility of JODI. The IEF is to continue its work on the development and promotion of the JODI Website.

6. Extension of JODI

Given the increasing interest in a comprehensive energy data transparency platform, the Initiative should consider the feasibility and potential merits of extending the coverage of JODI to other energy data (ie. Coal).

7. JODI Champions

Partners should identify and engage political, technical and social entities and influential individuals to act as JODI Champions. In this regard, the JODI Partners should embrace offers of cooperation from political blocs such as the G20 as this serves to ensure high-level and productive engagement on an on-going basis.

8. 5-Year Plan

Partners will develop a 5-year vision for JODI, and an “Action Plan” identifying how the vision can be achieved. The plan should facilitate the solicitation of support for JODI from senior officials in the lead-up to the IEF Ministerial in Algeria in 2016.

JODI Partners and conference participants are encouraged by the ongoing support for JODI expressed by Ministers and senior officials. Nevertheless, JODI partners reiterate their call on governments of participating countries and economies to ensure that administrations and organisations in charge of energy data collection are properly equipped and staffed to deliver upon Ministers’ expectations for improved global energy market data transparency. They also call for the implementation of appropriate regulations to ensure that industry is fully engaged in the transparency process and regularly submits data of the required detail and format. The issue of data confidentiality, which is still an obstacle in some cases, should also be addressed in the interests of achieving the energy market data transparency called for by Energy Ministers worldwide.

The IEF will report on actions, key messages and recommendations from this 12th International JODI Conference to G20 and other international bodies throughout 2015, leading to a report to Energy Ministers at the 15 IEF Ministerial Meeting in Algeria, in 2016 .

