



JodiOil[™]



JodiGas[™]



INTERNATIONAL ENERGY FORUM



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AN UPDATE ON THE JOINT ORGANISATIONS DATA INITIATIVE

**Presented to the G20 Ministers of
Finance and Central Bank Governors**



Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
1. Overview	4
2. Actions to Help Ensure Greater Visibility, Enhanced Access and Improved Availability of JODI data	4
3. Evaluating the Completeness, Sustainability and Timeliness of JODI Data: Findings from the Latest JODI Participation Assessment (January-June 2013).....	5
3.1 All Participating Countries and Economies	5
3.2 Participating Countries from the G20	5
4. Progress in JODI Capacity Building and Plans for 2013 and Beyond.....	6
5. JODI-Gas: Progress on Key Milestones Prior to the Public Launch	6
5.1 Determining a data quality assessment methodology and assigning colour codes to JODI-Gas data	7
5.2 Finalising the JODI-Gas Manual	7
5.3 Keeping key stakeholders engaged to help ensure sustained political support for JODI-Gas.....	7
5.4 Continuing outreach to countries and economies to improve participation in JODI-Gas.....	7
5.6 Launching a JODI-Gas website with information and resources to support data providers and users	8
5.7 Identifying the right venue/setting to launch JODI-Gas to obtain maximum visibility for the Initiative	8
6 IEA-IEF-OPEC Cooperation in Increasing Transparency in International Gas and Coal Markets: Recent Accomplishments and Plans for 2014	8
Annex One	
JODI–Oil Participation Assessment for the period January–June 2013.....	9
Annex Two	
A Review of the JODI-Oil Participation Assessment Definitions: Sustainability, Timeliness, and Completeness	10

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The January-June 2013 Participation Assessment (Smiley Faces): All Participating Countries and Economies

The JODI-Oil Participation Assessment covering the first semester of 2013 reveals cause for concern. Of all submitting countries and economies, those earning “good” ratings, or smiley faces, in each of the three evaluation categories has fallen versus the prior period. As the table below illustrates, the downward trend has been almost uniformly consistent over the last two assessment periods.

Number of Countries/Economies Earning “Good” or 😊 Ratings

	January-June 2012	July-December 2012	January-June 2013
Sustainability	85	82	76
Timeliness	64	61	59
Completeness	64	65	62

The JODI partners are already taking action to reverse this trend through workshops and on-going contact with participating countries and economies, but more support from governments is required to strengthen JODI data.

The January-June 2013 Participation Assessment (Smiley Faces): G20 Countries

The G20 members’ performance over the last three participation assessments has remained nearly identical. The table below summarises the last three assessments, showing that the completeness category represents the most potential for improvement.

Number of G20 Submitting Countries Earning “Good” or 😊 Ratings

	January-June 2012	July-December 2012	January-June 2013
Sustainability	19	19	19
Timeliness	17	16	17
Completeness	15	15	15

Incomplete or missing data represents the primary limitation that JODI-Oil faces in enhancing energy data market transparency. It is important that the G20 members ensure that submitted JODI data are as complete and accurate as possible, by reviewing data submissions, identifying existing challenges and implementing related countermeasures.

JODI-Gas: Timeline for Launch

The JODI Partners recently agreed to open the JODI-Gas database to the public at the Fourteenth IEF Ministerial Meeting, to be held next year in Russia, as this schedule will provide more time for the Partners to continue addressing JODI-Gas data integrity issues. Opening the database at the high-profile IEF14 should also help to build awareness about and support for JODI-Gas.

1. Overview

This update on the Joint Organisations Data Initiative (JODI) was prepared by the International Energy Forum (IEF) in consultation with its JODI Partners¹, in response to the request set forth in Section 91 of the September 2013 G20 Leaders' Declaration:

“To promote market transparency and efficiency, we commit to strengthen Joint Organisations Data Initiative (JODI-Oil) by ensuring greater visibility, more complete and comprehensive data, enhanced access and improved availability, and by maintaining support for capacity building. We look forward to the launch of JODI-Gas at the earliest date possible. We note the second report prepared by the International Energy Agency (IEA), the International Energy Forum (IEF) and the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in May 2013 on practical steps to increase transparency in international gas and coal markets. We ask the IEF to come back with a report on progress in these areas before the next G20 Ministers of Finance and Central Bank Governors meeting in October”.

Items 2 through 6 in this report include commentary on the key points raised in Section 91. The 2013 JODI Mid-Year Review, published in early August 2013, contains additional information about JODI-related activities during the first semester of this year, including updates on JODI-Oil, JODI-Gas, improvements to the JODI database and JODI-related G20 engagement and outreach.²

2. Actions to Help Ensure Greater Visibility, Enhanced Access and Improved Availability of JODI data

The JODI Partners have in recent months taken a number of actions to draw greater attention to JODI data, seeking to boost visibility while helping users access more quickly and efficiently the information they seek. As one example, JODI-Oil user e-mail alerts now highlight the latest data revisions, feature newly-submitting countries and economies, and more prominently publish updates to country notes. The IEF recently launched a new feature on the JODI website that clarifies which countries and economies have submitted data for a given month, making it easier for JODI users to track updates.³ In addition, the JODI Partners have nearly completed a concerted effort to harmonise the format of country notes featured in JODI, which among other things will help highlight possible definitional differences in JODI data.

The IEF continues to work towards enhancing both online and traditional communication channels with JODI users, and plans to unveil a number of new initiatives in the months ahead that should benefit users while raising JODI's profile. The IEF is currently building the JODI-Gas website in advance of its public launch, and is concomitantly overhauling the JODI-Oil website. The IEF Partners are in the final planning stages preparing for the launch of the JODI User Forum, an online platform that will feature answers to frequently asked questions and will enable JODI users to engage with and ask questions of relevant experts. The JODI User Forum will include features through which market actors can post charts or graphs of JODI-Oil or JODI-Gas data, engage in online conversations with other users, and will enable the IEF to direct posted questions to appropriate experts. In the offline communication category, the IEF continues its work on the re-launch of the JODI-Oil Monthly Report, which will be forthcoming before year-end.

¹ The JODI Partners are Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat), the International Energy Agency (IEA), the IEF, the Latin American Energy Organization (Olade), the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), and the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD).

² The 2013 JODI Mid-Year Review is available here: <http://www.jodidata.org/mid-year-review>

³ The spreadsheet is available here under “JODI-Oil monthly data availability by country”: <http://www.jodidata.org/database/data-downloads.aspx>

The availability of JODI data has been enhanced through improvements to both the JODI-Oil and JODI-Gas databases. The IEF Secretariat recently implemented a new JODI-Oil update procedure, significantly reducing the time needed to update the database. This shorter run time will allow the IEF to update the database more frequently as additional data submissions are received. JODI-Gas also features an improved update procedure, which accommodates data submissions from some participating countries that send the questionnaire directly to the IEF.

3. Evaluating the Completeness, Sustainability and Timeliness of JODI Data: Findings from the Latest JODI Participation Assessment (January-June 2013)

3.1 All Participating Countries and Economies

The JODI-Oil Participation Assessment⁴ covering the first semester of 2013 reveals cause for concern. The number of submitting countries and economies earning “good” ratings in each of the three evaluation categories has fallen versus the prior period. As the table below illustrates, the downward trend has been almost uniformly consistent over the last two assessment periods.

Table 1. Number of Countries/Economies Earning “Good” or 😊 Ratings

	January-June 2012	July-December 2012	January-June 2013
Sustainability	85	82	76
Timeliness	64	61	59
Completeness	64	65	62

The JODI partners are already taking action to reverse this trend, through workshops and on-going contact with participating countries, but more support from governments is required to strengthen JODI data. The success of JODI requires sustained commitment at all levels: from Leaders and Ministers to statisticians who work directly with energy data. It is imperative that top-level political commitment reaches the front-line actors working to collect and analyse JODI data, as in some cases scarce resources place limitations on staff working with JODI.⁵

3.2 Participating Countries from the G20⁶

The G20 members’ performance over the last three participation assessments has remained nearly identical, with an improvement in timeliness during the most recent semester, in line with the January-June 2012 result. The table below summarises the last three participation assessments, showing that the completeness category represents the most potential for improvement.

Table 2. Number of G20 Submitting Countries Earning “Good” or 😊 Ratings

	January-June 2012	July-December 2012	January-June 2013
Sustainability	19	19	19
Timeliness	17	16	17
Completeness	15	15	15

⁴The most recent assessment covers the period from January through June 2013. It is attached as Annex One and available here: www.jodidata.org/participants/participation-assessment.aspx

⁵As highlighted in the October 2012 IEF report “Improving the Reliability of the JODI-Oil Database”, presented to the G20 Finance Ministers.

⁶Out of 19 countries, excluding the European Union.

The primary limitation that JODI-Oil faces is incomplete or missing data. Incomplete data sets mean that JODI data for certain countries and economies are not sufficient to provide a fully representative summary of the market, which limits JODI's usefulness in enhancing global transparency. Incomplete data sets can be explained by a number of factors, but it is important that the G20 members ensure that submitted JODI data are as complete and accurate as possible by reviewing data submissions, identifying existing challenges and implementing related countermeasures.

A review of the definitions of the three assessment categories is attached for reference as Annex Two.

4. Progress in JODI Capacity Building and Plans for 2013 and Beyond

The format and content of JODI Regional Training Workshops has evolved since the first event was organised in 2006, as early groundwork has enabled increasingly richer exchanges between statisticians and the JODI Partners. Initial JODI regional workshops were generally structured along the lines of classroom training sessions, focused on promoting JODI awareness and ensuring fundamental capacity building. More recent workshops have progressively involved more sophisticated discussions about fine-tuning data collection techniques and clarifying any data discrepancies. These deeper dialogues strengthen communication and improve the exchange of knowledge at key points along the JODI data supply chain, ultimately resulting in a more robust JODI database.

The Eighth JODI Regional Training Workshop will be held in Kuala Lumpur from 28-30 October 2013, and will cover a range of data transparency related topics. This Workshop will be the first ever to contain a module on JODI-Gas, and will include an open discussion of good practices regarding oil and gas data collection, a review of oil and gas data quality assessment techniques, and an examination of findings from the Fourth JODI-Oil User Survey to help ensure that statisticians understand how JODI users leverage the database.

The costs to provide for on-going capacity building—such as the upcoming Workshop—are non-trivial, and related support is of paramount importance to ensure that all stakeholders may continue to benefit from greater energy data transparency. The Malaysia Energy Commission will generously host the Eighth Workshop, which will involve JODI representatives and roughly 30-40 participants, mainly from countries and economies in the Asia-Pacific region. Participation in this Workshop for many national statisticians, including some from G20 members, would not be possible without the financial support of the Government of Japan. Requests for funding from some G20 countries to facilitate the participation of their statisticians appear incongruous with long-standing support for energy data transparency, and merit analysis.

Looking ahead to 2014, the on-going JODI capacity building campaign was discussed at the recent JODI Inter-Secretariat meeting held from 3-4 October 2013. The IEF and JODI Partners will in the months ahead engage in discussions with potential hosts for regional trainings next year, with the twin objectives of continuing to enhance and improve JODI-Oil while ensuring that statisticians covering gas markets have the training they need prior to the forthcoming public launch of JODI-Gas.

5. JODI-Gas: Progress on Key Milestones Prior to the Public Launch

The remaining milestone objectives linked to the public launch of JODI-Gas have been squarely on the radar screens of the JODI Partners in recent months. These objectives⁷, which are listed below as with corresponding status updates, were defined and discussed at the Third Gas Data Transparency Conference (Indonesia, June 2013).

⁷ The remaining tasks and milestones were delineated on Page 9 of the 2013 JODI Mid-Year Review.

5.1 Determining a data quality assessment methodology and assigning colour codes⁸ to JODI-Gas data

The technical committee established among the JODI Partners has to date held two virtual meetings, with the objective of creating a methodology to assess country participation in JODI-Gas similar to the JODI-Oil participation assessment (smiley faces).

The limited availability of external or secondary data represents a challenge to adopting a standardised approach to assigning colour codes to JODI-Gas figures, yet also speaks to the benefit that JODI-Gas will provide as a data source. External sources of gas data are not available for all countries and economies, which complicates the task of creating a colour code approach that can be applied uniformly. In some cases, as with JODI-Oil, the JODI-Gas data represent the only available data in the market. This point reinforces the pioneering nature of JODI, and underscores its contributions to data transparency.

The JODI Partners' technical committee agreed to align the assessment methodologies wherever possible, maintaining certain differences among JODI Partners and agreeing to ensure that these differences are clearly communicated to stakeholders.

5.2 Finalising the JODI-Gas Manual

The United Nations Statistics Division has been the project leader in writing the JODI-Gas Manual, which is currently with the IEF in the final copy-editing and formatting phase. The JODI Partners will receive additional feedback on the JODI-Gas Manual from participants in the Eighth JODI Regional Training Workshop.

5.3 Keeping key stakeholders engaged to help ensure sustained political support for JODI-Gas

Representatives from the JODI Partners regularly engage with energy market actors at various levels, helping to maintain support for and deepen interest in JODI-Gas across the stakeholder spectrum. These interactions range from maintaining close contact with statisticians from the countries and economies participating in JODI-Gas, to highlighting the value of gas data transparency and the JODI platform at G20 expert meetings, outreach seminars, and recent gatherings of the G20 Energy Sustainability Working Group.

The IEF has been doing its part to extol the benefits of gas data transparency at the highest political levels, notably at the 1 July 2013 Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) Summit in Russia. During this meeting at the Kremlin, IEF Secretary General Aldo Flores encouraged all GECF members to support JODI, and emphasised that “better information helps to mitigate price volatility, helps in the planning and execution of investments, and contributes to the promotion of global energy security”.

Efforts to engage with stakeholders involve other avenues beyond face-to-face meetings, notably periodic reports on JODI's progress such as the recent 2013 JODI Mid-Year Review, and the forthcoming JODI Online User Forum—which will seek to facilitate dialogue among market actors regarding JODI-Gas, JODI-Oil, and more broadly energy market data.

5.4 Continuing outreach to countries and economies to improve participation in JODI-Gas

The six regional JODI Partners perform important JODI-Gas related outreach efforts with stakeholders on a daily basis, and the IEF is likewise doing its part to encourage greater participation in the Initiative from selected countries and organisations. For example, the IEF maintains close and on-going contact with the GECF, with the ultimate goal of deepening cooperation on JODI-Gas.

⁸When possible, JODI data are assigned colour codes by the JODI Partners to denote whether or not the internal consistency of selected data points has been assessed or compared against external data sources, and to provide related guidance to data users.

The combined JODI-Gas outreach efforts of the JODI Partners have yielded impressive results. The number of countries and economies submitting monthly gas data has risen from 52 in November 2012 to 71 in June 2013. Those 71 jurisdictions represent around 80% of global gas production and consumption.

5.5 Designing a JODI-Gas training and capacity-building strategic plan (JODI-Oil and JODI-Gas training sessions will be held jointly)

As noted under Section 4, the Eighth JODI Regional Training Workshop to be held at the end of this month will be the first-ever to include a module on JODI-Gas. The JODI Partners discussed JODI-Gas capacity building needs in an Inter-Secretariat meeting earlier this month, and in the coming months will be mapping out a 2014 training timeline.

5.6 Launching a JODI-Gas website with information and resources to support data providers and users

The IEF is currently designing a new JODI-Gas website, which will be modelled after the JODI-Oil site and will be linked to the forthcoming JODI Online User Forum.

5.7 Identifying the right venue/setting to launch JODI-Gas to obtain maximum visibility for the Initiative

The JODI Partners recently agreed to open the JODI-Gas database to the public at the Fourteenth IEF Ministerial Meeting, to be held next year in Russia, as this schedule will provide more time to continue addressing JODI-Gas data integrity issues. Opening the database at the high-profile IEF14 should also help to build awareness about and support for JODI-Gas.

6 IEA-IEF-OPEC Cooperation in Increasing Transparency in International Gas and Coal Markets: Recent Accomplishments and Plans for 2014

In June 2012, the IEA, IEF and OPEC (the International Organisations, or IOs) responded to a request from the G20 Finance Ministers to continue work on gas and coal market transparency by jointly submitting a report entitled “Increasing Transparency in International Gas and Coal Markets”, which provided recommendations to the G20 Finance Ministers on several fronts.

The G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors welcomed the Report in the communiqué from their 5 November 2012 meeting, and asked the IOs to propose related practical steps by mid-2013 that G20 countries could take to implement them.⁹ The IOs submitted a report entitled “Practical Recommendations for Increasing Transparency in International Gas and Coal Markets” to G20 Finance Ministers in May 2013 that contained suggestions along three main tracks.

First, the report suggested that strengthening JODI-Gas through greater participation, sustained capacity building, and improved timeliness, completeness and sustainability should serve to enhance transparency in gas markets.

Second, the report highlighted recommendations associated with gas market transparency including market access, regulatory competency, and capacity expansion and availability. On the last point, the IOs noted that the recommendations on this issue should take into account national and regional specificities and priorities. The IOs pledged to explore these topics further at the Second IEA-IEF-OPEC Symposium on Gas and Coal Market Outlooks, which was recently rescheduled for 2014, and to subsequently report back to G20.

Third, the report acknowledged a need for increased transparency in coal markets, and touched on practical suggestions that include focusing on OTC coal markets, off-specification coal trade, and microeconomic policies in the coal market.

⁹ “We welcome the report prepared by the IEA, the IEF and the OPEC on increasing transparency in international gas and coal markets and ask these organizations to propose practical steps by mid-2013 that G20 countries could take to implement them”.

Annex One

JODI–Oil Participation Assessment for the period January–June 2013

ALGERIA				GRENADA	NA	NA	NA	PANAMA			
ANGOLA				GUATEMALA				PAPUA NEW GUINEA			
ARGENTINA				GUYANA				PARAGUAY			
AUSTRALIA				HAITI	NA	NA	NA	PERU			
AUSTRIA				HONDURAS				PHILIPPINES			
AZERBAIJAN				HONG KONG, CHINA				POLAND			
BAHRAIN				HUNGARY				PORTUGAL			
BARBADOS				ICELAND				QATAR			
BELGIUM				INDIA				ROMANIA			
BELIZE				INDONESIA				RUSSIAN FEDERATION			
BOLIVIA				IRAN	NA	NA	NA	SAUDI ARABIA			
BRAZIL				IRAQ				SINGAPORE			
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM				IRELAND				SLOVAK REPUBLIC			
BULGARIA				ITALY				SLOVENIA			
CANADA				JAMAICA				SOUTH AFRICA			
CHILE				JAPAN				SPAIN			
CHINA				KAZAKHSTAN	NA	NA	NA	SURINAME			
COLOMBIA				KOREA				SWEDEN			
COSTA RICA				KUWAIT				SWITZERLAND			
CROATIA				LATVIA				SYRIA	NA	NA	NA
CUBA	NA	NA	NA	LIBYA	NA	NA	NA	TAIWAN, CHINA			
CYPRUS				LITHUANIA				THAILAND			
CZECH REPUBLIC				LUXEMBOURG				TRINIDAD & TOBAGO			
DENMARK				MALAYSIA				TUNISIA			
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC				MALTA				TURKEY			
ECUADOR				MEXICO				UKRAINE			
EGYPT				MOROCCO				UNITED ARAB EMIRATES			
EL SALVADOR				MYANMAR				UNITED KINGDOM			
ESTONIA				NETHERLANDS				UNITED STATES			
FINLAND				NEW ZEALAND				URUGUAY			
FRANCE				NICARAGUA				VENEZUELA			
GABON	NA	NA	NA	NIGERIA				VIETNAM	NA	NA	NA
GERMANY				NORWAY				YEMEN	NA	NA	NA
GREECE				OMAN							

SUSTAINABILITY (of submission)
 TIMELINESS
 COMPLETENESS

GOOD FAIR POOR

NOT ASSESSABLE (NA) IS APPLIED WHEN A COUNTRY DID NOT SUBMIT JODI-OIL QUESTIONNAIRE DATA DURING THE ASSESSMENT PERIOD NOR DURING THE SIX MONTHS PRIOR TO THE PERIOD.

Annex Two

A Review of the JODI-Oil Participation Assessment Definitions: Sustainability, Timeliness, and Completeness

Sustainability measures the number of JODI data submissions within a six-month period. A good rating, or smiley face, is earned when a country or economy submits JODI data for all six months.

Timeliness evaluates whether or not data were submitted at or before the expected deadline. A smiley face is awarded when all six submissions were received within two months of the end of the reference month.

Completeness tracks the number of data points submitted out of the maximum of 42 in the JODI questionnaire. To earn a smiley face, each country or economy must submit more than 90% of its data related to production, demand and stock changes.
