Exchange rates datasets presentation and update
24th November 2021

The Statistical Working System (SWS) hosts in the 'Common Domain' the two datasets "Exchange Rates (annual)" and "Exchange Rates (monthly)" containing respectively the annual and the monthly exchange rates for all the available countries.

The annual dataset contains both the exchange rates in Local Currency Unit (LCU), extracted through the IMF API, and the ones in Standard Local Currency (SLC) extracted through the UNSD API.

In each dataset, the dimensions are:

1. the country classified according to the M49 standard (geographicAreaM49 codelist in SWS)
2. the currency with the standard ISO code (from_currency and to_currency codelists)
3. the element of classification, i.e. if the exchange rates refer to LCU or SLC
4. the points in time: year (timePointYears) and monthly (timePointMonths only in the monthly dataset)

In all datasets, the exchange rates refer to the period average of the Domestic currency per US Dollar (from LCU and SLC to USD).

The exchange rates datasets are simple datasets that only need a recurrent update through an *ad-hoc* developed harvester procedure.

If between two updates there has been a currency change in a country this must be reflected in the "Exchange Rates Correspondences" datatable available in the "Common Domain".

Please note the datatable is an easily modified object and there is no track of the modification so it is strongly recommended to keep back-ups of the different versions.

The datatable in the figure below contains the information about the country and the currency from at least 1970 onwards. If there is a currency change, the end year and end date of the previous currency must be inserted and the new currency must be inserted manually. The operation can be done online or downloading and re-uploading the file with the Import and Export buttons. The advice is to do it online.

Note that the update operation must apply to all countries that adopted the currency.

Datatables   **Domain to select**   **Datatable name**   **Add a row for new currency**   **Import or export the whole table in .csv or .xlsx**

Domain: Common Domain   Table: Exchange Rates Correspondences   Add   Remove   Remove All   Import   Export   Export using S3

country	geographicaream49..	geographicareaiso3..	geographicareaiso2..	start_year_m49..	end_year_m49..	currency_name_iso	currency_name_eco_team	currency_code_iso..	start_year_iso..	end_year_iso..	start_date	end_date	start_year_eco_team..	end_year_eco_team..
Afghanistan	4	AFG	AF	1900	9999	Afghani	Afghani	AFA	1925	2002	1927-01-...	2002-12-...	1927	1990
Afghanistan	4	AFG	AF	1900	9999	Afghani	Afghani	AFN	2003		2002-10-...		1991	
Albania	8	ALB	AL	1900	9999	Lek	Lek	ALL	1965		1965-08-...		1965	
Albania	8	ALB	AL	1900	9999	Old Albanian Lek	Albanian Lek	ALK	1947	1964	1946-11-...	1965-08-...		
Algeria	12	DZA	DZ	1900	9999		French Franc	FRF	1960	1963	1960-01-...	1962-07-...		
Algeria	12	DZA	DZ	1900	9999	Algerian Dinar	Algerian Dinar	DZD	1964		1964-04-...		1965	
American Samoa	16	ASM	AS			US Dollar	US Dollar	USD	1904		1904-07-...		1904	
Andorra	20	AND	AD	1900	9999	Andorran Peseta	Andorran Peseta	ADP	1936	2001	1936-01-...			
Andorra	20	AND	AD	1900	9999	Euro	Euro	EUR	1999		1999-01-...		2002	
Angola	24	AGO	AO	1900	9999		Angolan Escudo	AOS	1959	1976	1958-12-...	1976-11-...		
Angola	24	AGO	AO	1900	9999	Kwanza	Angolan Kwanza	AOA	2000		1999-12-...		2000	
Angola	24	AGO	AO	1900	9999	Kwanza	Angolan Kwanza	AOK	1977	1990	1977-01-...	1990-09-...		
Angola	24	AGO	AO	1900	9999	Kwanza readjusted	Angolan Kwanza Reajustado	AOR	1995	1999	1995-07-...	1999-11-...		

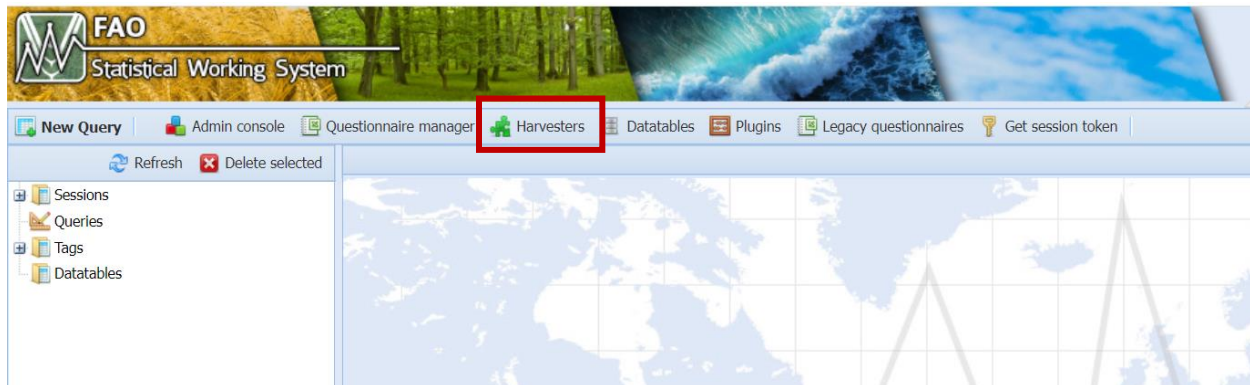Country fields (name, M49, ISO 3, ISO 2 codes, start and end year of the country)   Currency fields both from ISO and ECO team (name, code, official start and end year, official start and end date, start and end year for ECO team data)

The dataset update procedure is straightforward: an automatized API updates the data using the identified sources from 1970 to the latest available year.
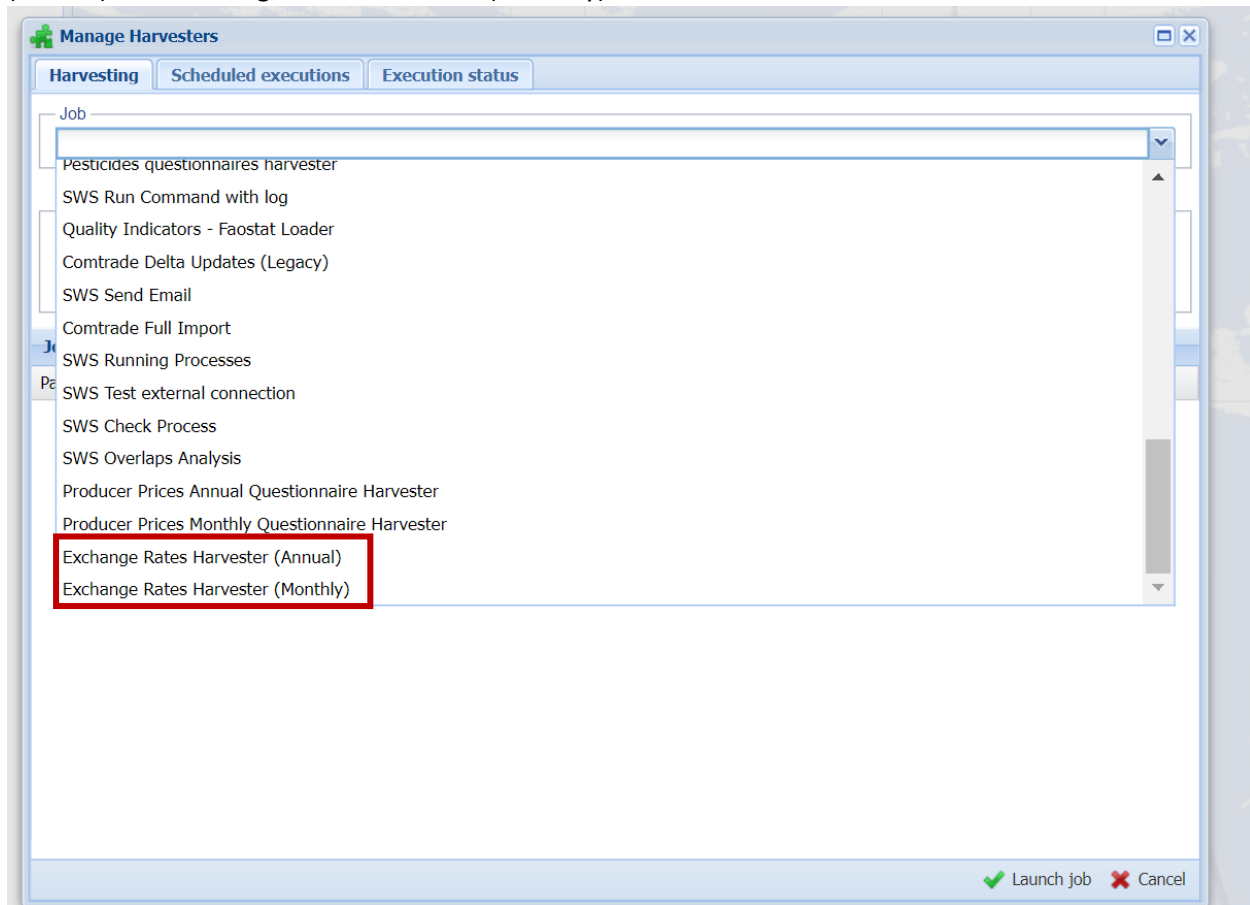
Before the update, it is advisable to create a tag of the dataset so that any change can be traced back.

The pictures below show the procedure that is similar for both annual and monthly datasets.

Select the 'Harvester' button on the main page https://sws.fao.org/

The list of available harvesters appears to the user. Select the desired one "Exchange Rates Harvester (Annual)" or "Exchange Rates Harvester (Monthly)"

If the annual procedure is selected the desired source must be specified in the "Source" field, i.e. UNSD or IMF then press the button "Launch job" and wait until an email updates about the outcome of the procedure (successful, warnings or errors).

If any error appears, please contact the CSI unit so that they can address the issue.

The monthly harvester has a similar procedure but no source must be inserted as all monthly rates are collected from IMF.

The ECO team is responsible for the

- Update of both the datasets and the datatable
- Information to the stakeholder about the regular updates