

# (Inter-) National accounting at your fingertips

## Aim

### European System of Accounts (ESA 95)

Authority:  
Eurostat, Luxembourg



binding framework upon all EU member countries since 1999

37 sectors, 20 accounts, up to 80.000 transactions

### Balance of Payments System (BPM 93)

Authority:  
IMF, Washington



available for all IMF member countries since 1995

supplements ESA for an in-depth view on international transactions (goods, services, capital)

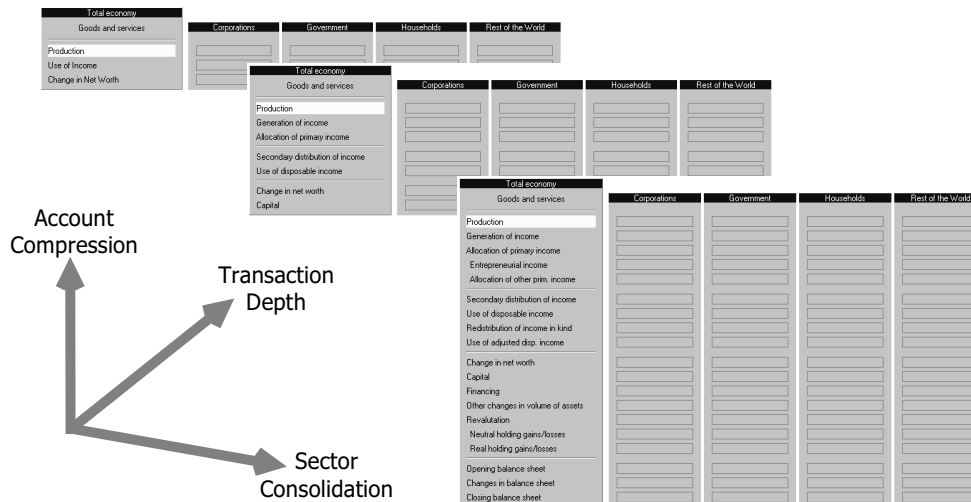


**learning by exploring real-world accounting systems (and real-world data)**

free, structured and assisted access for beginners, advanced students and experts (holistic approach: one tool serves all)

## User-tailored complexity

## Strategy



**the user tailors the system, ACTAS keeps it consistent**

each of the many different ways to view the data is fully derived from the original accounting systems

**freestyle account browsing with flexible support**

ACTAS tells the user what happens and not what to do

# Backed freestyle learning and supervised training

## Educational features

### Freestyle Mode

Navigation guide and input tracker

Consistency checks (system diagnosis)

Wizard (entry finder)

Indicators and visual data analysis

### Authoring and Training Mode

All freestyle tools plus:

Exercise editor for accounting events and transaction values (teacher's view)

Exam interface for supervised training (student's view)

Total economy				
	Corporations	Government	Households	Rest of the World
Production				
Generation of income				
Allocation of primary income				
Secondary distribution of income				
Use of disposable income				
Change in net worth				
Capital				

## Bringing accounts to life

## Innovative aspects

### Real-world data access via Excel-interface

Customized data import

ESA Excel workbooks **DIJSTATIS** wissen. nutzen.

IMF CDROM-data via Excel files or the Clipboard

Universal data exchange via Excel files

### Connectivity via COM-interface

ACTAS comes with COM-server technology for direct and easy access of any third-party application

Example: MAKROMAT uses ACTAS to show what macroeconomic models can explain (and what they cannot)

### A single language for computer communication ...

Data exchange between ACTAS and other applications (via Excel, Clipboard or COM) is based on international standards for accounting data description (transaction, sector and account codes)

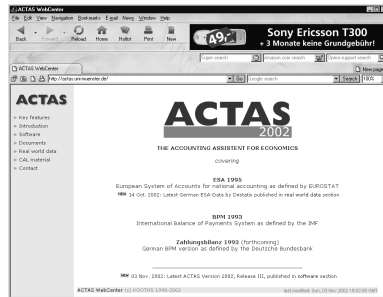
### ... but a multi-language GUI

Accounting specific contents (e.g. sector or transaction names) are presented in multiple languages, new languages can be added without recompilation

## You'll never work alone

### Support & partners

#### Free support for users: The ACTAS-WebCenter



- Key features and 9-step introduction
- Free download of the latest software version
- Documents and links concerning national accounting
- Real-world data from official sources
- Public platform for exchanging training files

#### In touch with official data sources



Supplying the latest German ESA-data as an ACTAS-import file (Excel)



Use IMF Balance of Payments CDROM data to view them in ACTAS



Licence to digitize the ESA-CDROM as an ACTAS hypertext

## More to come

### Experience & prospects

#### Use for teaching



University of Muenster  
Economics program

Lectures on Macroeconomics, National Accounting, and Economic Structure (3rd and 4th sem.)

Business and Information Technology School, Iserlohn  
Business Administration Program

Lectures on Economic Analyses (1st sem.)  
and on Globalization (3rd sem.)



#### Projects

Electronic exams with ACTAS

Developing a hypertext system from the ESA-documentation and linking it to accounts, sectors and transactions in the ACTAS-GUI

#### Vision

Linking the real-world data collection in real-time to ACTAS (B2G)