

Estimation of Global Wealth Aggregates in WID.world

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GLOBAL INEQUALITY DATA

Estimation of Global Wealth Aggregates in WID.world: Methodology

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Overview

This methodological note presents the concepts, data sources and methods used to reconstruct the balance sheet (i.e. assets minus liabilities) of countries across the globe and that of their different sectors. In section A, we define the various concepts of wealth and asset categories that we use. In Section B, we explain the different data sources and methods used to reconstruct the balance sheets. We first rely on authors' estimates using official balance sheets and/or other official sources when available. When authors' estimates do not exist, we use when possible official balance sheets which are usually published by National Central Banks or National Statistical Offices. Finally, when official balance sheets are not available, we rely on other official sources.

Regarding alternative official sources, we rely extensively on the following statistics published by the International Monetary Fund (IMF): the Monetary and Financial Statistics, which provide the balance sheets of the financial corporations sector and its counterparts; the Government Finance Statistics, which include the financial balance sheets of the government sector; the Global Debt Database, which provides information for financial liabilities; and the Public Sector Balance Sheet Database, which also includes the balance sheets of the government sector. For countries for which the balance sheet of financial corporations is not covered by the IMF statistics, we rely on the Locational Banking Statistics published by the Bank of International Settlements (BIS) when available. Finally, we also use the estimates of pension assets of the OECD Global Pension Statistics and the estimates of foreign assets and liabilities of G.-M. Milesi-Ferretti and Tille, 2011.

In the case of non-financial assets, we also rely on alternative official data sources whenever authors' estimates are not available. For agricultural land, we use the data on hectares

and prices of Eurostat and the information on land operations of FAO’s World Agriculture Census for European countries and the estimates from the United Nations’ Inclusive Wealth Report for the rest of countries when available. We capitalize the gross value added on agriculture from FAO for countries for which no statistics on agricultural land are available.

In what follows, we explain in detail the concepts, data sources and methods used to estimate Global Wealth Aggregates.

A Wealth Concepts

This section defines the various concepts of wealth and assets categories that we use. Our wealth concepts are defined using the 2008 System of National Accounts (United-Nations, 2010). We only deviate from these concepts in the treatment of unfunded employers’ pensions. This is the same treatment of wealth concepts adopted in the Distributional National Accounts Guidelines (Alvaredo et al., 2020) of the World Inequality Database, to which our project adheres.

For a given country, the SNA-2008 defines 6 basic institutional sectors: 5 resident sectors and the foreign sector. The five resident sectors are households (S.14), non-profit institutions serving households (S.15), non-financial corporations (S.11), financial corporations (S.12), and the general government (S.13). We re-group the five sectors into three: (i) the private sector (the sum of households and non-profit institutions serving households), (ii) the corporate sector (financial plus non-financial corporations), and (iii) the general government.

For a given resident sector i (i.e., private, corporate, or government sectors), wealth (or net worth) is the sum of non-financial assets plus financial assets, less liabilities: $W_i = A_i^{NF} + A_i^F - L_i$. At the country level, we follow the two definitions of national wealth used by Piketty and Zucman (2014). The first one, called the book value of wealth, basically follows the SNA standards by computing, for each resident sector i , their non-financial assets (A_i^{NF}), and adding the net foreign wealth (NFW).¹ Grouping households and non-profit institutions into the private sector and financial and non-financial corporations into the corporate sector, book-value of national wealth (W_N^B) can be expressed as follows: $W_N^B = A_P^{NF} + A_C^{NF} + A_G^{NF} + NFW$. The other definition of national wealth, named market-value of wealth (W_N^M), is the sum of private wealth (W_P) and public sector wealth (W_G): $W_N^M = W_P + W_G$.

The link between these two definitions can be traced to the corporate sector. To see

¹In the SNA, the rest of the world sector only holds financial positions, with non-financial assets holdings being accounted as financial. In ESA-2010, non-financial assets of non-residents are classified in AF.519.

this, start with a closed economy, where financial assets cancel out with liabilities, and national wealth equals the national stock of non-financial assets. Given that in an open economy net foreign wealth equals the sum of financial assets A_i^F minus liabilities L_i of resident sectors: $NFW = A_P^F - L_P + A_C^F - L_C + A_G^F - L_G$, then the book-value of national wealth equals the market-value definition plus the wealth of the corporate sector: $W_N^B = W_N^M + W_C$. In our paper we favor the market-value definition of national wealth, but we also present results for book-value national wealth.

As a rule, all financial assets and liabilities of resident sectors are unconsolidated.² For the rest of the world, series are consolidated.

Decomposition of the stock of wealth

In what follows, we explain the decomposition of wealth into the assets and liabilities of a given sector. We use as an example the household sector in France. The details of the computations are given in Table 1, where we also provide a number of decompositions into different classes of assets.

	Gross personal wealth	4689
AN, S14	Non-financial assets owned by households	1429
	<i>Housing assets of households</i>	1174
AN111, S14	<i>Dwellings owned by households</i>	681
AN21111, S14	<i>Land underlying dwellings owned by households</i>	493
	<i>Business and other non-financial assets of households</i>	255
AN2112, S14	<i>Agricultural land of households</i>	23
	<i>Other domestic capital of households</i>	232
AF, S14	Financial assets owned by households	3260
AF2+AF3+AF4+AF7+AF8, S14	<i>Currency, deposits, bonds and loans of households</i>	1120
AF5, S14	<i>Equity and investment fund shares of households</i>	1749
AF6, S14	<i>Life insurance and pension funds of households</i>	391
AF, S14	Minus: Liabilities of households	189
	Equals: Net personal wealth	4500

Adapted from the SNA-2008 “Sequence of accounts” (United-Nations, 2010) and the French Table of Integrated Economic Accounts (INSEE, 2018).

Table 1: Net Personal Wealth

Our basic decomposition includes four classes of assets and liabilities: housing assets, business assets (and other non-financial assets), financial assets, and liabilities. Housing assets are defined as the sum of the market value of dwellings and land underlying dwellings: in practice, it is generally easier to measure the sum (as in observed real estate transactions) than the two components separately. Business assets (and other non-financial assets) are the difference between total non-financial assets and housing assets.

²The SNA-2008 guidelines indicate that “the accounting entries in the System are not consolidated. Therefore, the financial balance sheet of a resident sector or subsector is to be presented on a non-consolidated basis” United-Nations (2010).

Note that existing national balance sheets do not always provide separate estimates for the different uses of land. The most recent international system of national accounts (SNA-2008) does not provide a decomposition of land into different components. This is in contrast with the previous international guidelines (SNA-1993) which did provide a disaggregation of land. The adaptation of the SNA-2008 in Europe by the European Commission (ESA-2010) has, however, retained a basic decomposition of land into four categories: Land underlying buildings and structures (AN.2111), Land under cultivation (AN.2112), Recreational land and associated surface water (AN.2113), Other land and associated surface water (AN.2119). The latter two categories (AN.2113 and AN.2119) are generally very small and sometimes are not even estimated in official balance sheets.

Moreover, the SNA-2008 recommends following the disaggregation of land proposed by the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (United-Nations (2014)) whenever national statistical offices want to decompose land. This land disaggregation is consistent with that of ESA-2010, but adds a more detailed decomposition of Land underlying buildings and structures (AN.2111) and Land under cultivation (Land under cultivation (AN.2112)). The former is decomposed into Land underlying dwellings (AN.21111) and Land underlying other buildings and structures (AN.21112). The latter is decomposed into Agricultural land (AN.21121), Forestry land (AN.21122), and Surface water used for aquaculture (AN.21123). Many national statistical agencies follow this break down.

We aim at using the more detailed decomposition suggested by System of Environmental-Economic Accounting whenever possible. In particular, our objective is to capture housing (including its underlying land) and agricultural land, as these have been the two most important assets owned by households over their path of development (e.g., Piketty and Zucman, 2014). Moreover, we also break down ‘Other domestic capital’ into natural resources other than land and business assets. Natural resources such as mineral and energy reserves can be very substantial in certain countries, in particular in developing ones.

A special mention on how agricultural land is defined. The Eurostat-OECD manual on land estimation (Eurostat-OECD, 2015) defines agricultural land as “Land primarily used for agricultural purposes. The total of land under temporary or permanent crops, meadows and pastures as well as land with temporary fallow; this category includes tilled and fallow land, and naturally grown permanent meadows and pastures used for grazing, animal feeding or agricultural purpose. Excludes land underlying farm dwellings, farm buildings or other corresponding structures”. While statistical offices not always report data on the value of agricultural land, many compile statistics on agricultural land area, classifying this land into three basic types: arable land, permanent grassland, and permanent crops.³

³In most countries, arable land and permanent grassland are the most important types of agricultural land, followed by permanent crops (Eurostat-OECD, 2015, pg. 126). Some countries do also include a

These statistics have a long history, both in rich and developing countries. The Food and Agriculture Organization has fostered their collection over more than half a century, within the framework of the decennial World Census of Agriculture (e.g., Deininger and Squire, 1998; Frankema, 2010). As we explain in the data sources and methods section (section B), in some countries, we will use these statistics to provide our own estimates of agricultural land values.

We split financial assets into three categories: currency, deposits, bonds and loans (the sum of AF1, AF2, AF3, AF4, AF7 and AF8), equity and investment fund shares (AF5), and life insurance and pension funds (AF6). For all sectors, we report total liabilities, except for corporations, where we distinguish between equity and non-equity liabilities.

Finally, we consider that one aspect of the current SNA’s definition of financial assets is problematic: the range of pensions that are included within asset category AF6. While the SNA-1993 only included funded pension assets, the most recent SNA-2008 also includes unfunded employers’ pensions. In our view, and that of the DINA project, the SNA-2008 treatment is not satisfactory, since unfunded pensions are promises of future transfers that are not backed by actual wealth. In the United States, Saez and Zucman (2016) remove unfunded pensions from wealth. In other countries, we have been unable to remove this component at the moment, but hope to make progress in the future. For some countries, we already know that unfunded pensions are either not part of official balance sheets (France and the UK) or have a very low value (Germany).

B Data Sources and Methods

B.1 Authors’ estimates

There are some countries for which balance sheets were already reconstructed using official balance sheets and/or other official sources. Piketty and Zucman (2014) reconstruct the balance sheets of Australia (1970-2010), Canada (1970-2010), France (1700-2010), Germany (1870-2010), Japan (1960-2010), Italy (1965-2010), United Kingdom (1700-2010) and United States (1770-2010). We update the series up to 2020 using official balance sheets or extrapolating when not available, and follow the previous update of the series made by Bauluz (2019) and Bauluz and Brassac (2020). Blanco, Bauluz, and Martínez-Toledano (2021) reconstruct the balance sheet of Spain from 1900 to 2017 and have updated their series up to 2018.⁴ We extrapolate the series forward up to 2020. Baselgia

forth category: kitchen gardens. This type of land is almost irrelevant when compared to other land categories and should be included within land underlying buildings and structures (AN.2111) for national accounts purposes (Eurostat-OECD, 2015, chapter 8). As we explain below, we have made use of statistics on agricultural land area to estimate agricultural land values, and have excluded kitchen garden, when possible.

⁴See <https://sites.google.com/view/spainwealthdatabase/>.

and Martínez (2020) reconstruct the balance sheet of Switzerland since 1900 and we rely on their series for the time frame and asset categories that are not available in official online data sources. In particular, we use the series of net private wealth (1900-1999), public non-financial assets (1990-2018), public financial assets, public financial liabilities and net public wealth (1990-1998), and net foreign assets (1995-1998). Waldenström (2017), Moatsos, Toussaint, and Vicq de Cumptich (2021) and Daly and Morgan (2021) build the balance sheets for Sweden (1810-2014), the Netherlands (1853-2019) and Ireland (1995-2019), respectively. We update the series up to 2020 for both countries using official balance sheets or extrapolating when not available.

Novokmet, Piketty, and Zucman (2018), Kumar (2019), Piketty, Yang, and Zucman (2019) and Chatterjee, Czajka, and Gethin (2020) have also reconstructed the balance sheet of Russia (1905-2016), India (1860-2012), China (1978-2015) and South Africa (1975-2018), respectively. We update the series up to 2020 for all four countries using official balance sheets or extrapolating when not available. For the case of China, we specifically update the balance sheet of the household sector using data from Li, Zhang, and Chang (2020). For India, in addition to the series of national wealth from Kumar (2019), we provide data for the household sector covering the period since 2012. For financial assets and liabilities, we use Financial Accounts from OECD. For non-financial assets, we estimate the value of housing, agricultural land, and other non-financial assets from All-India Debt and Investment Survey. We extend the housing series using the All-India House Price Index from the Reserve Bank of India, combined with series of population growth (a proxy for new residential investment). For agricultural land and other non-financial assets we assume they have remained constant as a percentage of national income. The same procedure is followed to extend the Russian series of household non-financial assets since 2015. In this case, we use average dwelling price series from BIS.

Finally, Bauluz, Flores, and Morgan (2021) have built the financial balance sheet for Brazil (2004-2018), Chile (2003-2020), Colombia (1996-2019) and Mexico (2003-2019), together with data on the non-financial balance sheet of Mexico (2003-2019), and household non-financial assets of Brazil (1999-2019). We also extrapolate these series up to 2020.

B.2 Financial Assets and Liabilities

To reconstruct the balance sheet of financial assets and liabilities, we rely when possible on official balance sheets, which are usually published by National Central Banks or National Statistical Offices. When official balance sheets are not available, we rely on other official sources. In what follows, we detail the availability of sources and the methods used for countries for which partial or complete data are available.

B.2.1 Official Financial Accounts

We have collected official financial balance sheets by institutional sector and asset type for the following countries: Albania (2013-2019), Austria (1995-2019), Belgium (1995-2020), Bulgaria (1995-2019), Croatia (1995-2019), Cyprus (1995-2019), Czech Republic (1993-2020), Denmark (1994-2020), Estonia (1995-2019), Finland (1995-2020), Greece (1995-2020), Hungary (1989-2020), Iceland (2003-2019), Israel (2010-2019), Latvia (1995-2019), Lithuania (1995-2019), Luxembourg (1995-2020), Malta (1995-2020), New Zealand (2007-2019), Norway (1995-2020), Poland (1995-2020), Portugal (1994-2020), Romania (1995-2020), Singapore (1995-2019), Slovakia (1995-2020), Slovenia (1995-2020), South Korea (2008-2020), Switzerland (1999-2020), Taiwan (2000-2019) and Turkey (2010-2020). The countries for which we rely on authors' estimates do also have official financial accounts for the recent period. This is the case of Australia (1989-2019), Brazil (2005-2018), Canada (1990-2020), Chile (2003-2020), China (2000-2017), Colombia (1996-2019), France (1978-2020), Germany (1999-2019), Italy (1995-2020), India (2011-2018), Ireland (2001-2018), Japan (1994-2019), Mexico (2004-2019), Netherlands (1995-2020), Russia (2011-2020), South Africa (1975-2019), Spain (1970-2019), Sweden (1995-2020), United Kingdom (1987-2020), and United States.

B.2.2 International Monetary Fund (IMF)

For countries for which official financial balance sheets are not available, we need to rely on other sources. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) publishes rich financial statistics for a much larger set of countries than those available in official financial balance sheets. In particular, we rely on four main data sources: the *Monetary and Financial Statistics*, which provide the balance sheets of the financial corporations sector and its counterparts, *Government Finance Statistics*, which include the financial balance sheets of the government sector, the *Global Debt Database*, which provides information for financial liabilities, and the *Public Sector Balance Sheet Database*, which also includes the balance sheets of the government sector.⁵

Monetary and Financial Statistics (MFS)

The Monetary and Financial Statistics (MFS) database contains macroeconomic aggregates for the financial corporations (FCs). The Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual and Compilation Guide summarizes the methodological and practical aspects of the compilation process for MFS. Important for our analysis, the series conform with the System of National Accounts (SNA). The presentation of the data is done by decomposing the financial corporations sector into three subsectors: i) Central Bank, ii) Other Depository

⁵We only use the MFS for the government sector whenever direct statistics on the government sector from the Government Finance Statistics, Global Debt Database or the Public Sector Balance Sheet (see subsections below) are not available.

Corporations (ODCs) and iii) Other Financial Corporations (OFCs). By using these series we can ensure consistency with SNA and its institutional sectors, as the MFS financial corporations sector perfectly maps to the SNA financial corporations sector. First, the MFS central bank subsector perfectly maps to the SNA central bank subsector. Second, the MFS ODCs subsector map to the sum of the deposit-taking corporations except the central banks and the money market funds (MMFs) subsectors. Finally, the OFCs subsector maps to the sum of non-MMF investment funds, other financial intermediaries except insurance corporations and pension funds, financial auxiliaries, captive financial institutions and money lenders, insurance corporations, and pension funds.

The majority of countries use the standardized report forms (SRFs) to report monetary data to the IMF and are presented under SRF Countries. The SRFs were introduced by the IMF in 2004 to ensure methodological soundness, facilitate cross-country comparability, provide a uniform way for presenting monetary data for reporting to the IMF and also be used as a platform for the monetary statistics disseminated through national sources. The SRFs for the central bank, ODCs, and OFCs use a harmonized accounting presentation of assets and liabilities (stocks only) of the FCs. The key advantage of the database for our purpose is that the statistics are presented in a balance-sheet-like structure according to the instrument, currency of denomination (domestic and foreign) and the sector of counterpart (corresponding to the main sectors of the 2008-SNA), making it possible to infer the assets and liabilities owned by other sectors in financial corporations.

Countries that do not use the SRFs for reporting Monetary data are presented under Non-SRF Countries. The IMF changes the presentation of these countries whenever they implement the reporting of SRF-based data. We only focus on SRF countries for now, as for non-SRF countries the information provided is very limited. There are two set of SRF countries, those that report very detailed monetary and financial data and those that report less detailed information. In what follows, we detail the availability of data for the two groups of SRF countries, specifying the sector of counterpart and the financial instruments we can infer.

- Detailed monetary and financial data based on standardized report forms (SRFs)

The detailed monetary and financial data based on SRFs provide information on the assets and liabilities by financial instrument for the central bank, ODCs and OFCs. Given that information of the sector of counterpart is provided, we can not only infer the assets and liabilities for the FCs, but also those of the households and NPISH, the non-financial corporations and the general government sectors.

We do so by mapping each of the SRFs financial instruments for every sector to the SNA financial instruments as follows: Monetary gold and special drawing rights (SDRs) correspond to AF.1 Monetary gold and SDRs; Holdings of national and local currency

and Currency in circulation correspond to AF.21 Currency; Transferable deposits, Other deposits, Required reserves and clearing balances, Required reserves (other deposits), Excess reserves, Counterpart funds and Government lending funds correspond to AF.2 Deposits; Securities other than shares and Required reserves securities other than shares correspond to AF.3 Debt Securities; Loans correspond to AF.4 Loans; Shares and other equity correspond to AF.5 Equity and investment fund shares; Net equity of households in life insurance reserves and Prepaid premiums/reserves against outstanding claims correspond to AF.6 Insurance, pension and standardized guarantee schemes; Financial derivatives correspond to AF.7 Financial derivatives and Trade credit/advances, Settlement accounts, Dividends receivable, Dividends payable, Items in the process of collection, Miscellaneous asset items and Miscellaneous liability items correspond to AF.8 Other accounts receivable/payable.

The equity and fund shares category is not available by sector of counterpart, so that we only count on the series for the financial corporations sectors and rely on the imputations methods explained in Section C to allocate them to the rest of sectors.

Among the set of SRF countries that provide detailed monetary and financial statistics, not all of them report information for all three subsectors (central bank, ODCs and OFCs).

The countries for which information for the central bank and ODCs is provided and we rely on are the following: Afghanistan (2006-2019), Bangladesh (2001-2020), Bolivia (2001-2019), Cameroon (2001-2019), Central African Republic (2001-2018), Chad (2001-2018), Congo (2001-2019), Costa Rica (2001-2019), El Salvador (2001-2019), Equatorial Guinea (2001-2018), Gabon (2001-2019), Jordan (2014-2019), Kazakhstan (2006-2019), Kosovo (2001-2019), Kuwait (2001-2019), Lesotho (2001-2019), Mauritania (2012-2019), Mauritius (2001-2019), Morocco (2001-2020), Myanmar (2001-2019), Nepal (2004-2019), Nicaragua (2001-2019), Nigeria (2001-2019), Pakistan (2001-2019), Paraguay (2001-2019), Samoa (2001-2019), Sao Tomé and Príncipe (2001-2019), Seychelles (2001-2019), Sierra Leone (2001-2019), Sri Lanka (2001-2019), Suriname (2001-2019), Swaziland (2001-2019), Tajikistan (2001-2019), Tunisia (2001-2019), United Arab Emirates (2001-2019) and Vanuatu (2001-2019).

The countries for which information for OFCs is also provided and we rely on are the following: Bolivia (2005-2019), Costa Rica (2008-2019), El Salvador (2001-2019), Kazakhstan (2015-2019), Kosovo (2004-2019), Kuwait (2001-2019), Nicaragua (2001-2019), Nigeria (2017-2019), Samoa (2007-2019), Seychelles (2001-2019), Tajikistan (2008-2019) and United Arab Emirates (2017-2019).

- Surveys based on standardized report forms (SRFs)

The non-detailed monetary and financial data based on SRFs also provide information

on the assets and liabilities for the central bank, ODCs and OFCs, but the sector of counterpart information and decomposition by financial instrument is much more limited. We map each of the SRFs financial instruments to the SNA financial instruments in the same way as we did for the detailed monetary and financial statistics based on SRFs. In this case, the assets are not decomposed by financial instrument nor sector of counterpart, so that we only count on aggregate information on the financial assets for the financial corporations sector. In the case of liabilities, we have aggregate information for the households & NPISH, non-financial corporations, other financial corporations and state and local government on the following financial instruments: deposits, securities, loans, financial derivatives and equity. The liabilities to the central government, central bank, other depositary corporations and to non-residents are included separately and not decomposed by financial instrument.

Among the set of SRF countries that provide non-detailed monetary and financial statistics, not all of them report information for all three subsectors (central bank, ODCs and OFCs).

The countries for which information for the central bank and ODCs is provided and we rely on are the following: Anguilla (2001-2020), Antigua and Barbuda (2001-2019), Armenia (2001-2019), Azerbaijan (2001-2019), Bahamas (2010-2020), Barbados (2001-2019), Belarus (2001-2019), Belize (2001-2020), Benin (2001-2019), Bhutan (2001-2019), Bosnia and Herzegovina (2001-2019), Botswana (2001-2019), Brunei (2001-2019), Burkina Faso (2001-2019), Burundi (2001-2019), Cabo Verde (2001-2019), Cambodia (2001-2019), Comoros (2001-2019), Cote d'Ivoire (2001-2019), Democratic Republic of Congo (2001-2019), Dominica (2001-2019), Dominican Republic (2001-2019), Ecuador (2001-2019), Egypt (2001-2019), Eritrea (2001-2014), Fiji (2001-2020), Gambia (2001-2018), Georgia (2001-2019), Ghana (2001-2019), Grenada (2001-2020), Guatemala (2001-2020), Guinea Bissau (2001-2019), Guyana (2001-2019), Haiti (2001-2019), Honduras (2001-2019), Honk Hong (2008-2019), Indonesia (2009-2019), Iraq (2004-2019), Jamaica (2001-2020), Kenya (2001-2019), Kyrgyzstan (2002-2019), Madagascar (2006-2019), Malaysia (2001-2019), Maldives (2001-2019), Mali (2001-2019), Moldova (2001-2019), Mongolia (2001-2020), Montserrat (2001-2020), Mozambique (2001-2019), Namibia (2001-2019), Niger (2001-2019), Oman (2001-2019), Panama (2002-2020), Papua New Guinea (2001-2020), Peru (2006-2019), Philippines (2001-2019), Qatar (2001-2020), Rwanda (2001-2019), Senegal (2001-2019), Solomon Islands (2001-2020), South Sudan (2011-2020), Saint Kitts and Nevis (2001-2020), Saint Lucia (2001-2020), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (2001-2020), Serbia (2001-2020), Sudan (2001-2020), Syria (2001-2011), Tanzania (2001-2019), Thailand (2001-2020), Timor-Leste (2002-2019), Togo (2001-2020), Tonga (2001-2020), Trinidad and Tobago (2001-2020), Uganda (2001-2019), Ukraine (2001-2020), Uruguay (2001-2019), Uzbekistan (2013-2020), Venezuela (2001-2016), Zambia (2001-2020) and Zimbabwe (2009-2019).

The countries for which information for OFCs is also provided and we rely on are the following: Armenia (2009-2019), Azerbaijan (2006-2019), Bahamas (2016-2020), Belarus (2007-2019), Bosnia and Herzegovina (2006-2019), Bhutan (2003-2019), Brunei (2006-2019), Burundi (2001-2019), Cambodia (2013-2019), Comoros (2001-2010), Dominican Republic (2004-2019), Ecuador (2001-2019), Georgia (2008-2019), Guatemala (2001-2020), Guyana (2001-2019), Honduras (2010-2019), Indonesia (2015-2019), Kyrgyzstan (2016-2019), Maldives (2004-2019), Moldova (2010-2019), Namibia (2015-2019), Panama (2010-2020), Papua New Guinea (2009-2020), Philippines (2017-2019), Solomon Islands (2001-2020), Thailand (2007-2020), Trinidad and Tobago (2010-2020), Uganda (2011-2019), Ukraine (2008-2019), Uruguay (2001-2019) and Zambia (2011-2018).

Government Finance Statistics (GFS)

The Government Finance Statistics (GFS) database contains detailed government data on revenues, expenditures, transactions in financial assets and liabilities, and balance sheet data for all reporting countries in the framework of the Government Finance Statistics Manual 2014 (GFSM 2014). The database includes data for the general government sector and its subsectors (i.e., central government (budgetary/extra-budgetary central government and social security funds), local government and state government). GFS data are compiled by country authorities and reported to the IMF Statistics Department annually.

We rely on these statistics for countries for which official data balance sheets are not available. We prefer this database over the MFS database for the government sector, as it contains information for the full balance sheet by financial instrument. Among the set of countries for which we use GFS not all of them report information for the general government, so that we rely instead on the available subsectors and impute the missing government assets and/or liabilities using the techniques explained in Section C.

The countries for which information for the general government is available and we rely on are the following: Belarus (Assets: 2014-2019, Liabilities: 2005-2019), El Salvador (2005-2019), Indonesia (2008-2019), Kazakhstan (Assets: 2013-2019, Liabilities: 2010-2019), Kyrgyzstan (2014-2018), Moldova (Assets: 2005-2019, Liabilities: 2002-2019), Mongolia (2014-2018), Morocco (Liabilities: 2006-2011), Seychelles (2008-2015), Thailand (2012-2019), Uganda (Assets: 2004-2019, Liabilities: 1998-2019), Ukraine (2008-2019), United Arab Emirates (Assets: 2013) and Uruguay (2001-2019).

The countries for which information only for the budgetary central government is available and we rely on are the following: Anguilla (Liabilities: 2005-2014), Armenia (Assets: 2019, Liabilities: 2003-2019), Bahamas (Liabilities: 1990-2000; 2006-2019), Barbados (Assets: 2005-2015, Liabilities: 2004-2015), Bolivia (Assets: 2003-2007, Liabilities: 1998-2007), Bosnia and Herzegovina (2011-2019), Burkina Faso (2018-2019), Costa Rica (Assets: 2008-

2019, Liabilities: 1998-2001, 2008-2018), Dominican Republic (2006, 2018-2019), Ethiopia (2013-2019), Iraq (2015-2019), Jamaica (Liabilities: 1990-2019), Jordan (Assets: 2008-2019, Liabilities: 1995-2019), Montserrat (Liabilities: 2000-2014), Mozambique (2016-2019), Oman (Assets: 2010-2013, Liabilities: 2003-2013), Republic of Congo (2009-2010) and Serbia (2007-2012).

Finally, the countries for which only information for the state government is available and we rely on are Micronesia (2008-2019) and Peru (Assets: 2006-2019, Liabilities: 2009-2019).

Global Debt Database

The Global Debt Database (GDD) comprises total gross debt of the private and public nonfinancial sector for a large set of advanced, emerging and low-income countries. The GDD is more limited in scope for our purpose than GFS, as it does not contain any information on assets, it only includes partial information for liabilities (i.e., loans and debt securities) and gross private debt is not decomposed between Households & NPISH and Non-financial corporations.⁶ Hence, we rely on it for countries for which GFS data is inexistent or incomplete.

The countries for which information on private debt is available and we rely on are the following: Algeria (1995-2019), Argentina (1950-2019), Azerbaijan (1992-2019), Bahrain (1965-2015), Barbados (2012-2019), Benin (1960-2019), Bhutan (1983-2019), Botswana (1972-2019), Burkina Faso (1960-2019), Burundi (1964-2019), Cabo Verde (1976-2019), Cambodia (1993-2019), Comoros (1982-2017), Cote d'Ivoire (1960-2019), Democratic Republic of Congo (1963-2019), Djibouti (1983-2018), Dominica (1975-2019), Dominican Republic (1991-2010), Ecuador (1950-2019), Egypt (1950-2019), Eritrea (1995-2014), Ethiopia (1960-2008), Gambia (1964-2019), Georgia (1995-2019), Ghana (1955-2019), Grenada (1970-2019), Guatemala (1950-2019), Guinea-Bissau (1990-2019), Guyana (1960-2019), Haiti (1955-2019), Honduras (1950-2019), Hong Kong (1978-2019), Indonesia (1980-2019), Iran (1955-2016), Iraq (2004-2018), Jamaica (1953-2019), Kenya (1961-2019), Kyrgyzstan (1995-2019), Laos (1989-2010), Lebanon (1964-2017), Liberia (2000-2018), Madagascar (1962-2019), Maldives (1976-2019), Mali (1960-2019), Micronesia (1995-2019), Moldova (1991-2019), Mongolia (1991-2019), Mozambique (1988-2019), Niger (1960-2019), Oman (1972-2019), Papua New Guinea (1973-2019), Peru (1950-2019), Philippines (1950-2019), Qatar (1966-2019), Rwanda (1964-2019), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (1975-2019), Senegal (1960-2019), Serbia (1997-2019), Solomon Islands (1978-2018), South Sudan (2011-2019), Saint Lucia (1975-2019), Sudan (1960-2019), Tanzania (1961-2019), Thailand (1950-2013), Timor-Leste (2002-2019), Togo (1960-2019), Tonga (1974-2019), Trinidad and Tobago (1951-2019), Uganda (1960-2019), Ukraine (1995-2019) Uruguay

⁶For more details on the methodology and definitions, please see Mbaye, Badia, and Chae (2018).

(1950-2019), Venezuela (1950-2016), Vietnam (1992-2019), Yemen (1990-2013), Zambia (1965-2019), Zimbabwe (1979-2019).

The countries for which information on debt of the general government is available and we rely on are the following: Cambodia (1995-2019), China (2016-2019), Egypt (1970-2019), Georgia (1995-2011, 2017-2019), Honduras (1990-2019), Kosovo (2009-2019), Kyrgyzstan (1994-2013), Mauritius (1970-2019), Nicaragua (1997-2019), Nigeria (2011-2019), Panama (1950-2019), Philippines (1950-2019), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (1990-2019), Saint Kitts and Nevis (1996-2019), Tajikistan (1998-2019), Tanzania (1970-2019), Thailand, United Arab Emirates (1973-2019), Uzbekistan (1998-2019), Venezuela (1998-2017), Vietnam (2000-2018), Yemen (1990-2019).

The countries for which information on debt of the general government is not available, but instead debt of the central government is available and we rely on are the following: Afghanistan (2002-2019), Algeria (1970-2019), Angola (1995-2019), Antigua and Barbuda (1990-2014), Argentina (1950-2019), Azerbaijan (1994-2019), Bangladesh (1973-2019), Bahrain (1974-2019), Belize (1976-2019), Benin (1970-2019), Botswana (1972-2019), Brunei Darussalam (2001-2019), Burundi (1964-2019), Cabo Verde (1981-2019), Cameroon (1970-2018), Central African Republic (1970-2018), Chad (1970-2018), Comoros (1984-2019), Cote d'Ivoire (1970-2019), Democratic Republic of Congo (1971-2019), Djibouti (1995-2019), Dominica (1975-2019), Ecuador (1990-2019), Equatorial Guinea (1980-2019), Eritrea (1995-2019), Fiji (1970-2019), Gabon (1970-2019), Gambia (1973-2019), Ghana (1962-2019), Grenada (1970-2019), Guatemala (1950-2019), Guinea-Bissau (1986-2019), Guyana (1963-2019), Haiti (1970-2019), Hong Kong (2001-2019), Iran (1970-2019), Kenya (1963-2019), Kuwait (1987-2019), Laos (1976-2019), Lebanon (1970-2019), Lesotho (1970-2019), Liberia (2000-2019), Libya (1973-2017), Madagascar (1970-2019), Maldives (1976-2019), Mali (1970-2019), Mauritania (1970-2019), Myanmar (1998-2019), Namibia (1989-2019), Nepal (1970-2019), Niger (1970-2019), Pakistan (1951-2019), Papua New Guinea (1970-2019), Paraguay (1970-2019), Qatar (1990-2019), Rwanda (1970-2019), Samoa (1970-2019), Sao Tomé and Príncipe (1977-2019), Senegal (1970-2019), Sierra Leone (1970-2019), Solomon Islands (1978-2019), South Sudan (2012-2019), Sri Lanka (1951-2019), Saint Lucia (1981-2019), Sudan (1992-2019), Suriname (1994-2019), Swaziland (1970-2019), Syria (1970-2010), Timor-Leste (2013-2019), Togo (1970-2019), Tonga (1985-2019), Trinidad and Tobago (1963-2019), Tunisia (1970-2019), Vanuatu (1981-2019), Zambia (1970-2019), Zimbabwe (1964-2019).

Public Sector Balance Sheet (PSBS)

The Public Sector Balance Sheet (PSBS) Database is an alternative source on public wealth statistics by financial instrument, which was developed in the context of the October 2018 Fiscal Monitor. The dataset is compiled using the conceptual framework of

the IMF's Government Finance Statistics Manual 2014 (GFSM 2014), so that it is also fully consistent with SNA. The two government sectors covered are the general and the central government. The set of countries covered is smaller and the time frame shorter, so that we only rely on these statistics when not available in GFS.

The only two countries for which information on public wealth is available in PSBS and we rely on are thus Bhutan (2000-2016) and Georgia (2012-2016).

B.2.3 Locational Banking Statistics (BIS)

The Bank of International Settlements (BIS) published the *Locational Banking Statistics*, which provide quarterly data on the outstanding claims and liabilities of internationally active banks located in reporting countries. The statistics thus provide information for the other depository corporations sector and for the following financial instruments: total assets, deposits and loans, debt securities and total liabilities.⁷ The database also provides counterpart information on total assets and liabilities for Banks (Central Banks & Other Depository Corporations) and Non-Banks (Non-bank financial corporations & Non-financial sectors). The information provided is thus more limited for our purpose than the one provided in the MFS. We only use it for countries for which no other information is available.

The only countries for which these statistics are available and we rely on are Bahrain (1995-2019), Bermuda (2002-2019), Cayman Islands (1995-2019), Guernsey (2001-2019), Isle of Man (2013-2019) and Jersey (2001-2019). For Bermuda (2014-2019), Cayman Islands (1995-2019), Guernsey (2014-2019) and Isle of Man (2014-2019) the category of Non-banks is further decomposed into Non-Banks Non-Financial (sum of Household & NPISH, Non-Financial Corporations, General Government).

B.2.4 Pension Wealth (OECD)

In addition to estimates of pension assets available from official balance sheets, we rely on the OECD Global Pension Statistics. This database compiles estimates of pensions for over 80 countries covering the period 2009-2019. The definition, concept and valuation of pension assets used in OECD follows the standards of the SNA-2008. The countries for which we use OECD data are the following: Angola (2018-2019), Armenia (2014-2019), Bolivia (2009-2010), Botswana (2013, 2017-2018), Costa Rica (2009-2019), Dominican Republic (2009-2019), Egypt (2013-2019), El Salvador (2009-2019), Georgia (2019), Ghana (2014-2019), Guyana (2009-2019), Hong Kong (2009-2019), Indonesia (2009-2019), Isle of Man (2016-2018), Jamaica (2009-2019), Kazakhstan (2018-2019), Kenya (2009-2019),

⁷The total assets category consists of the sum of deposits, loans, debt securities, derivatives and other instruments, but only disaggregated information is provided for deposits and loans on the one hand and debt securities on the other.

Kosovo (2012-2019), Lesotho (2011-2012), Malawi (2013-2019), Malaysia (2011-2019), Maldives (2011-2019), Mauritius (2012-2017), Mozambique (2018), Namibia (2010-2019), Nigeria (2009-2019), Pakistan (2009-2019), Panama (2010-2011, 2013-2019), Papua New Guinea (2013, 2017-2018), Peru (2009-2019), Serbia (2009-2019), Suriname (2016-2019), Tanzania (2013-2017), Thailand (2009-2019), Trinidad and Tobago (2009-2012), Uganda (2016), Ukraine (2010-2011, 2017-2019), Uruguay (2009-2019), Zambia (2009-2019).

B.2.5 Foreign Assets and Liabilities

To reconstruct the balance sheet of the foreign sector, we rely when possible on official balance sheets, which are usually published by National Central Banks or National Statistical Offices. When official balance sheets are not available, we rely on other authors' estimates or on other official sources. In what follows, we detail the availability of sources and the methods used for countries for which partial or complete data are available.

The countries for which official balance sheets for the foreign sector are available and we rely on are the following: Albania (2013-2019), Austria (1995-2019), Belgium (1995-2020), Bulgaria (1995-2019), Croatia (1995-2019), Cyprus (1995-2019), Czech Republic (1993-2020), Denmark (1994-2020), Estonia (1995-2019), Finland (1995-2020), Greece (1995-2020), Hungary (1989-2020), Iceland (2003-2019), Israel (2010-2019), Latvia (1995-2019), Lithuania (1995-2019), Luxembourg (1995-2020), Malta (1995-2020), New Zealand (2007-2019), Norway (1995-2020), Poland (1995-2020), Portugal (1994-2020), Romania (1995-2020), Slovakia (1995-2020), Slovenia (1995-2020), South Korea (2008-2020), Switzerland (1999-2020), Taiwan (2000-2019) and Turkey (2010-2020). The countries for which we rely on authors' estimates do also have official financial accounts for the recent period. This is the case of Australia (1989-2019), Brazil (2005-2018), Canada (1990-2020), Chile (2003-2020), China (2000-2015), Colombia (1996-2019), France (1978-2020), Germany (1999-2019), Italy (1995-2020), India (2011-2018), Ireland (2001-2018), Japan (1994-2019), Mexico (2004-2019), Netherlands (1995-2020), Russia (2011-2020), South Africa (1975-2019), Spain (1970-2019), Sweden (1995-2020), United Kingdom (1987-2020), and United States.

When official balance sheets are not available, we rely on the estimates of external assets and liabilities—the so-called International Investment Position (IIP)—from M. P. R. Lane and M. G. M. Milesi-Ferretti (2017). The dataset follows the standard decomposition of assets and liabilities according to the Balance of Payments Statistics Manual 6. Specifically, assets and liabilities are divided in the following categories: foreign direct investment; portfolio equity; portfolio debt; other investment; and financial derivatives; plus foreign exchange reserves on the asset side. They exclude gold holdings from foreign exchange reserves, which are included in official IIP statistics, as these are not financial claims on another economy. When international investment position data are not available,

estimates are constructed from a variety of sources, as discussed in detail in P. R. Lane and G. M. Milesi-Ferretti (2007) and G.-M. Milesi-Ferretti and Tille (2011).

The countries for which official balance sheets for the foreign sector are not available and we rely on M. P. R. Lane and M. G. M. Milesi-Ferretti (2017) are the following: Afghanistan (2002-2015), Algeria (1970-2015), Angola (1980-2002), Anguilla (1990-2015), Antigua and Barbuda (1977-2015), Argentina (1970-2015), Armenia (1996-2015), Azerbaijan (1995-2015), Bahrain (1970-2015), Bangladesh (1973-2015), Barbados (1970-2015), Belarus (1994-2015), Belize (1976-2019), Benin (1970-2015), Bhutan (1983-2015), Bolivia (1970-2015), Bosnia and Herzegovina (1998-2015), Botswana (1974-2015), Brunei Darussalam (1985-2015), Burkina Faso (1974-2015), Burundi (1970-2015), Cabo Verde (1981-2015), Cambodia (1993-2009), Cameroon (1970-2015), Central African Republic (1970-2015), Chad (1970-2017), Comoros (1979-2015), Congo (1970-2015), Costa Rica (1970-2015), Cote d'Ivoire (1970-2015), Democratic Republic of Congo (1970-2015), Djibouti (1977-2015), Dominica (1977-2015), Dominican Republic (1970-2015), Ecuador (1970-2015), Egypt (1970-2015), El Salvador (1970-2015), Equatorial Guinea (1980-2015), Eritrea (1995-2015), Ethiopia (1970-2015), Fiji (1977-2015), Gabon (1970-2015), Gambia (1970-2015), Georgia (1995-2015), Ghana (1970-2015), Grenada (1971-2015), Guatemala (1970-2015), Guinea-Bissau (1980-2000), Guyana (1970-2015), Haiti (1970-2015), Honduras (1970-2015), Hong Kong (1979-2015), Indonesia (1970-2015), Iran (1970-2015), Iraq (2005-2015), Jamaica (1970-2015), Jordan (1970-2015), Kazakhstan (1994-2015), Kenya (1970-2015), Kosovo (2004-2015), Kuwait (1974-2015), Kyrgyzstan (1993-2015), Laos (1977-2015), Lebanon (1970-2015), Lesotho (1975-1999), Liberia (1970-2015), Libya (1972-2015), Madagascar (1970-2006), Maldives (1978-2015), Mali (1970-2015), Moldova (1994-2001), Mauritania (1970-2015), Mauritius (1970-2015), Micronesia (1995-2015), Mongolia (1992-2015), Montserrat (1983-2015), Morocco (1970-2015), Mozambique (1980-2015), Myanmar (1970-2015), Namibia (1989-2006), Nepal (1970-2015), Nicaragua (1970-2015), Niger (1970-2015), Nigeria (1970-2015), Oman (1973-2015), Pakistan (1970-2015), Panama (1970-2015), Papua New Guinea (1973-2015), Paraguay (1970-2015), Peru (1970-2015), Philippines (1970-2015), Qatar (1970-2015), Rwanda (1970-2015), Saint Kitts and Nevis (1981-2015), Saint Lucia (1976-2015), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (1976-2015), Samoa (1970-2012), Sao Tomé and Príncipe (1987-2015), Senegal (1970-2015), Serbia (1999-2015), Seychelles (1977-2015), Sierra Leone (1970-2009), Singapore (1970-2015), Solomon Islands (1977-2015), South Sudan (2011-2015), Sri Lanka (1970-2015), Sudan (1970-2008), Suriname (1976-2015), Swaziland (1970-2013), Syria (1970-2015), Tajikistan (1997-2015), Tanzania (1970-2013), Thailand (1970-2015), Timor-Leste (2005-2015), Togo (1970-2015), Tonga (1980-2015), Trinidad and Tobago (1970-2010), Tunisia (1970-2015), Uganda (1970-2015), Ukraine (1994-2015), United Arab Emirates (1973-2015), Uruguay (1970-2015), Uzbekistan (1992-2015), Vanuatu (1973-2013), Venezuela (1970-2015), Vietnam

(1995-2015), Yemen (1990-2015), Zambia (1970-2009) and Zimbabwe (1976-2005).

For more recent years, we supplement the M. P. R. Lane and M. G. M. Milesi-Ferretti (2017)’s dataset—that is only available up to 2015—with data on foreign assets and liabilities from the IMF’s International Investment Positions. The countries for which we rely on these statistics are the following: Afghanistan (2016-2020), Algeria (2016-2020), Angola (2003-2020), Anguilla (2016-2018), Argentina (2016-2020), Armenia (2016-2020), Bahrain (2016-2019), Bangladesh (2016-2020), Belarus (2016-2020), Benin (2016-2019), Bhutan (2016-2020), Bolivia (2016-2020), Bosnia and Herzegovina (2016-2020), Botswana (2016-2020), Burkina Faso (2016-2019), Burundi (2016-2019), Cabo Verde (2016-2020), Cambodia (2010-2020), Cameroon (2016-2019), China (2016-2020), Costa Rica (2016-2020), Cote d’Ivoire (2016-2019), Democratic Republic of Congo (2016-2019), Djibouti (2016-2020), Dominica (2016-2018), Dominican Republic (2016-2020), Ecuador (2016-2020), Egypt (2016-2020), El Salvador (2016-2020), Fiji (2016-2020), Georgia (2016-2020), Ghana (2016-2019), Grenada (2016-2019), Guatemala (2016-2020), Guinea-Bissau (2001-2019), Guyana (2016-2018), Haiti (2016-2019), Honduras (2016-2020), Hong Kong (2016-2020), India (2019-2020), Indonesia (2016-2020), Jamaica (2016-2020), Jordan (2016-2019), Kazakhstan (2016-2020), Kenya (2016-2018), Kosovo (2016-2020), Kyrgyzstan (2016-2019), Lesotho (2000-2019), Madagascar (2007-2018), Malawi (2016-2019), Malaysia (2016-2020), Mali (2016-2018), Morocco (2016-2020), Mauritius (2016-2019), Moldova (2002-2019), Mongolia (2016-2020), Mozambique (2016-2020), Myanmar (2016-2020), Namibia (2007-2020), Nepal (2016-2019), Nicaragua (2016-2020), Niger (2016-2019), Nigeria (2016-2020), Pakistan (2016-2020), Panama (2016-2020), Paraguay (2016-2020), Peru (2016-2020), Philippines (2016-2020), Rwanda (2016-2019), Saint Kitts and Nevis (2016-2018), Samoa (2013-2019), Sao Tomé and Príncipe (2016-2020), Saudi Arabia (2016-2020), Senegal (2016-2018), Seychelles (2016-2019), Sierra Leone (2010-2017), Singapore (2016-2020), Solomon Islands (2016-2020), South Africa (2019-2020), Sri Lanka (2016-2019), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (2016-2018), Saint Lucia (2016-2018), Sudan (2009-2019), Suriname (2016-2020), Swaziland (2014-2020), Tajikistan (2016-2019), Tanzania (2014-2019), Thailand (2016-2020), Timor-Leste (2016-2020), Togo (2016-2019), Trinidad and Tobago (2011-2020), Tunisia (2016-2020), Uganda (2016-2019), Ukraine (2016-2020), Uruguay (2016-2020), Uzbekistan (2016-2020), Vanuatu (2014-2020), Venezuela (2016), Zambia (2010-2019).

B.3 Non-financial assets

B.3.1 Agricultural land

Authors’ estimates

For some countries, we rely on country-specific studies that include estimates of agricultural

land and that are published in the World Inequality Database: China (Piketty, Yang, and Zucman (2019)), Ireland (Daly and Morgan (2021)), Russia (Novokmet, Piketty, and Zucman (2018)), Spain (Artola Blanco, Bauluz, and Martínez-Toledano (2020)), Sweden (Waldenström (2017)), UK (Piketty and Zucman (2014); Bauluz (2019)), US (Piketty and Zucman (2014); Bauluz (2019)). We have extended the original series for China and Russia which were available until 2015, assuming that agricultural land has remained constant as a percentage of national income during the period 2016-2020. For India, we estimate agricultural land owned by households in 2012 using the All-India Debt and Investment Survey. This is the same data source used by Kumar (2019) to estimate national wealth in India. As documented by Kumar (2019), close to all agricultural land in India is owned by the household sector. We extend these estimates for the period 2013-2020, assuming that agricultural land has remained constant as a percentage of national income at its 2012 level.

Global Land Inequality project

Bauluz, Govind, and Novokmet (2020) estimate agricultural land and its distribution for a set of developing countries based on combining survey data and agricultural censuses. For the countries covered in their study, we use their agricultural land values estimates. Missing years are extrapolated using the growth rate of Gross Value Added in Agriculture (from FAO Statistics). Note that this project also analyzes China and India. Their estimates are consistent with those from Piketty, Yang, and Zucman (2019) and the ones we have produced based on the AIDIS survey for India.

The countries for which we rely on the Global Land Inequality Project are the following: Bangladesh (1990-2019), Ethiopia (1990-2019), Indonesia (1990-2019), Malawi (1990-2019), Nicaragua (1990-2019), Nigeria (1990-2019), Pakistan (1990-2019), Vietnam (1990-2019).

Official Non-financial Accounts

Agricultural land is only reported in official balance sheets for a few countries. In some countries, no distinction is made between Land under cultivation (AN.2112) and its three subcomponents: Agricultural land (AN.21121), Forestry land (AN.21122), and surface water used for aquaculture (AN.21123). In those cases, we approximate agricultural land using land under cultivation. In other cases, we approximate agricultural land as a residual from total land (AN.211) net of built land (Land underlying buildings and structures (AN.2111)).

The countries for which official non-financial accounts are available are the following: Australia (1989-2019) (total land minus land underlying dwellings), Belgium (1995-2019), Canada (1990-2019), Czech Republic (1993-2019), Netherlands (1995-2019) (Land under cultivation), France (1978-2019) (Land under cultivation), Germany (1999-2018) (Land -

Land underlying buildings and structures), Italy (2001-2017) (Land under cultivation), Japan (1994-2014) (Land under cultivation), Slovenia (1995-2019) (Land under cultivation). For details on the construction of the series of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, and Japan, see Bauluz (2019), and Bauluz and Brassac (2020).

Eurostat and FAO

In a set of European countries, we are able to estimate the value of agricultural land multiplying agricultural land area (in hectares) by land prices per hectare. We gather the data on hectares and prices from Eurostat and, in few cases, from national statistical offices.

We proceed in two steps. First, we estimate the total value of agricultural land. Second, we decompose this land across institutional sectors.

Regarding the first step. The ideal scenario would be to multiply hectares of arable land, permanent grassland, and permanent crops (the three types of agricultural land) with prices on each land type. However, prices on permanent crops are not available, reason why we approximate the price of permanent crop land using the average price of arable land and permanent grassland, as recommended by Eurostat-OECD (2015, section 8.19).⁸ We follow this procedure in the following countries: Bulgaria (2003-2016), Croatia (2007-2016), Estonia (2004-2016), Greece (1995-2016), Hungary (2000-2016), Lithuania (2003-2016), Luxembourg (1995-2016), Poland (2003-2016), Romania (2003-2016) and Slovakia (2000-2016).

In some cases, we only have price information for total agricultural land area⁹, and we multiply average price of total agricultural land by the sum of arable land, permanent grassland, and permanent crops (Malta (2003-2016)). We follow the same approach when both prices and land area are only available for total agricultural land, without distinguishing the share of agricultural land by types of use (Latvia (2003-2016)).

In a second step, we allocate the share of total agricultural land that is owned by different institutional sectors. For Estonia, Hungary and Lithuania, we use data on the area of agricultural land that is owned by different sectors from countries' statistical departments. For the remaining countries, we rely on FAO's World Agriculture Census (e.g. Deininger and Squire, 1998). FAO censuses report the amount of land **operated** by individual and juridical persons, respectively. Note that this information does not refer to the sector that **owns** the land. We use this information on land operated as a proxy for the sector

⁸Note that the area covered by permanent crops tends to be fairly small, as explained by Eurostat-OECD (2015, pg. 126): "in most countries permanent grassland and arable land are by far the most important types of agricultural land; their definitions are mentioned below. Areas devoted to permanent crops are usually less important, in some countries even negligible".

⁹Total agricultural land area is referred in Eurostat as Utilized Agricultural Land, and it the sum of sum of arable land, permanent grassland, permanent crops, and kitchen gardens.

owning the land, and allocate individually-held land to households and the remaining land to corporations. If better data on the decomposition of agricultural land across sectors become available, we will adjust our estimates accordingly.

UN Inclusive Wealth Report

For countries for which we do not have estimates from official balance sheets, the Global Land Inequality project, WID's authors, or from us built using Eurostat and FAO's data, we rely on estimates of agricultural land from United Nation's Inclusive Wealth Report (Programme, 2015), whenever available. This report estimates agricultural land in 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, and 2014 for a large number of countries. UN's estimates are obtained using Net Present Value, a method recommended by OECD to estimate natural resources.¹⁰ As we show in the next subsection (see below), the correlation between UN's estimates of agricultural land values and Gross Value Added in agriculture from FAO is relatively high (see also figure 1). To split a country's total land value across institutional sectors, we use census data from FAO, which generally decomposes agricultural land area across sectors. One caveat of this procedure is that this decomposition refers to the sector operating the land and not to the sector owning the land. Nonetheless, FAO also reports the share of total agricultural land that is both owned and operated by the same individual or company. In developing countries, this share is on average above 80%. Hence, we use the sectoral decomposition of land operators as a proxy for landowners.

The countries for which we rely on data from the UN Inclusive Wealth Report are the following: Afghanistan (1990-2019), Austria (1990-2019), Belize (1990-2019), Bolivia (1990-2019), Botswana (1990-2014), Brazil (1990-2014), Burundi (1990-2014), Cambodia (1990-2014), Cameroon (1990-2014), Colombia (1990-2014), Congo (1990-2014), Costa Rica (1990-2014), Cote d'Ivoire (1990-2014), Dominican Republic (1990-2014), Ecuador (1990-2014), Egypt (1990-2014), El Salvador (1990-2014), Fiji (1990-2014), Ghana (1990-2014), Guyana (1990-2014), Honduras (1990-2014), Iceland (1990-2014), Iran (1990-2014), Iraq (1990-2014), Israel (1990-2014), Jamaica (1990-2014), Jordan (1990-2014), Kenya (1990-2014), Laos (1990-2014), Malaysia (1990-2014), Mali (1990-2014), Mauritius (1990-2014), Mongolia (1990-2014), Morocco (1990-2014), Mozambique (1990-2014), Nepal (1990-2014), New Zealand (1990-2014), Niger (1990-2014), Panama (1990-2014), Paraguay (1990-2014), Peru (1990-2014), Philippines (1990-2014), Portugal (1990-2014), Rwanda (1990-2014), Saudi Arabia (1990-2014), Senegal (1990-2014), South Africa (1990-2014), Sri Lanka (1990-2014), Switzerland (1990-2014), Tanzania (1990-2014), Thailand (1990-2014), Togo (1990-2014), Trinidad and Tobago (1990-2014), Tunisia (1990-2014), Turkey (1990-2014), Uruguay (1990-2014), Venezuela (1990-2014), Yemen (1990-2014), and Zambia

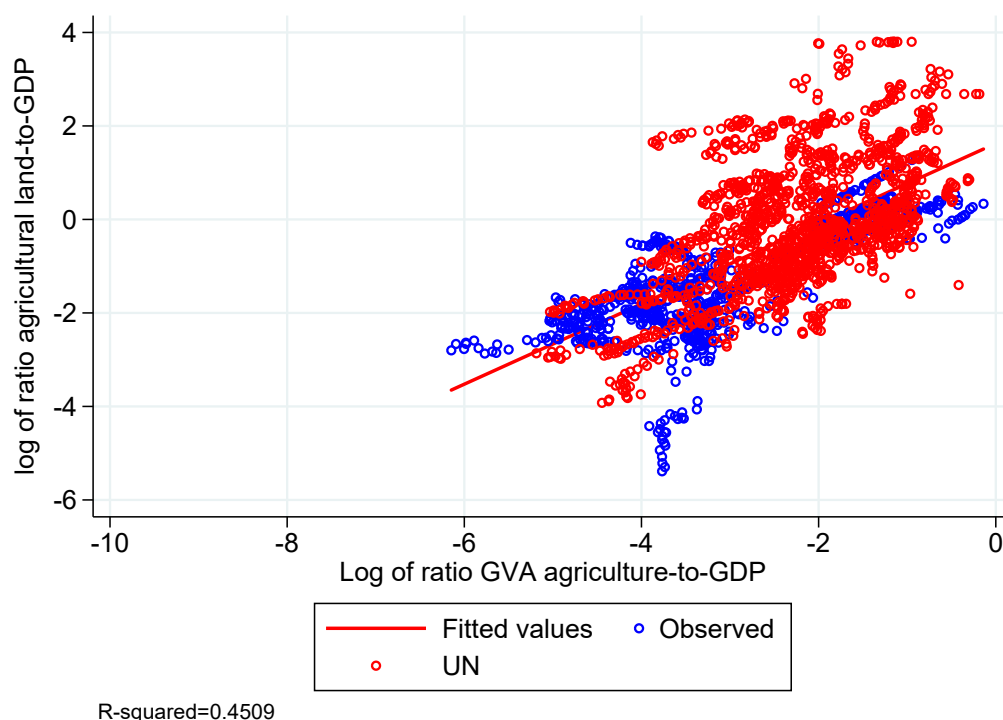
¹⁰“Often, market prices do not exist for natural resources and the net present value of future benefits accruing from holding or using the asset constitutes the next best solution towards putting a balance sheet value to the asset” (OECD, 2009, pg. 166).

(1990-2014).

Capitalization of Gross Value Added in Agriculture

Finally, we make use of statistics on Gross Value Added on agriculture to impute agricultural land. FAO's data on GVA in agriculture are available on an annual basis for most countries in the world, and go back to the 1970s. We predict the (log) ratio of agricultural land to GDP using the (log) ratio of GVA in agricultural land to GDP. Figure 1 plots the correlation between the two variables for all countries and years for which we observe the two. The red dots are observations from UN's Inclusive Wealth Report, while the blue dots are observations from official balance sheets, the Global Land Inequality project, or our own estimates using Eurostat/FAO's data on area and prices of agricultural land (see subsections above). The correlation between the two is relatively high (r-squared of 0.45). We use it to impute all countries for which we do not have agricultural land values but observe Gross Value Added in agriculture. To split a country's total land value across institutional sectors we follow the same approach than with the UN's estimates from the Inclusive Wealth Report (see above).

Figure 1: **Correlation between the (log) ratio of agricultural land to GDP using the (log) ratio of GVA in agricultural land to GDP**



Notes: This figures shows the correlation between the the (log) ratio of agricultural land to GDP and the (log) ratio of GVA in agricultural land to GDP. Agricultural land values are either from (i) official balance sheets, WIL's authors estimates, the Global Land Inequality project, and our own estimates using Eurostat/FAO data (blue dots) or from (ii) UN's Inclusive Wealth Report (red dots). Data on Gross Value Added on Agriculture is from FAO's statistics (FAOSTAT). We pool all available years since 1990 for which we observe both agricultural land values and GVA in agriculture.

The countries for which we estimate the value of agricultural land using Gross Value Added in agriculture are the following: Albania (1990-2019), Angola (1996-2019), Anguilla (1990-2019), Antigua and Barbuda (1990-2019), Argentina (1990-2019), Armenia (1990-2019), Azerbaijan (1994-2019), Bahamas (1990-2019), Bahrain (1990-2019), Barbados (1990-2019), Belarus (1995-2019), Benin (1990-2019), Bermuda (1990-2019), Bhutan (1990-2019), Bosnia and Herzegovina (1993-2019), Brunei Darussalam (1990-2019), Burkina Faso (1990-2019), Cabo Verde (1990-2019), Cayman Islands (1990-2019), Central African Republic (1990-2019), Chad (1990-2019), Comoros (1990-2019), Democratic Republic of Congo (1994-2019), Djibouti (1990-2019), Dominica (1990-2019), Equatorial Guinea (1990-2019), Eritrea (1990-2019), Gabon (1990-2019), Gambia (1990-2019), Georgia (1994-2019), Grenada (1990-2019), Guatemala (1990-2019), Guinea-Bissau (1990-2019), Haiti (1990-2019), Kazakhstan (1994-2019), Kuwait (1990-2019), Kyrgyzstan (1993-2019), Lebanon (1990-2019), Lesotho (1990-2019), Liberia (1990-2019), Libya (1990-2019), Madagascar (1990-2019), Maldives (1990-2019), Mauritania (1990-2019), Micronesia (1990-2019), Moldova (1993-2019), Montserrat (1990-2019), Myanmar (1990-2019), Oman (1990-2019), Papua New Guinea (1990-2019), Qatar (1990-2019), Saint Kitts and Nevis (1990-2019), Saint Lucia (1990-2019), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (1990-2019), Samoa (1990-2019), Sao Tomé and Príncipe (1990-2019), Serbia (1993-2019), Seychelles (1990-2019), Sierra Leone (1990-2019), Solomon Islands (1990-2019), Suriname (1995-2019), Swaziland (1990-2019), Syria (1990-2019), Tajikistan (1995-2019), Tonga (1990-2019), Uganda (1990-2019), Ukraine (1993-2019), United Arab Emirates (1990-2019), Uzbekistan (1993-2019), Vanuatu (1990-2019), and Zimbabwe (1990-2019).

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