
IFRS Taxonomy Consultative Group (ITCG) meeting

Date **20 October 2026**

Project **Digital Financial Reporting**

Topic **Accessibility of taxonomy guides and supporting materials**

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Purpose of this session

- The staff will provide ITCG members with an update on the format and accessibility of various internal and external guides to support the development and understanding of the IFRS digital taxonomies
- Sections of this paper:
 - ① Existing taxonomy guides in HTML format
 - ② Taxonomy modelling policies guide
 - ③ Internal drafting guide
 - ④ Taxonomy overlay in IFRS Standards Navigator

Questions for ITCG members



Question 1—Are there any additional considerations for staff to consider when converting guides to HTML format? Given that we do not plan to maintain the guides in PDF, are there any concerns with only maintaining the taxonomy guides in HTML format?

Question 2—Do you use the taxonomy overlay in the IFRS Standards Navigator? Is the functionality useful to you?

- If so—do you have any suggestions for dealing with the differences between the IFRS Taxonomy and the IFRS Standards?
- If not—is there utility in continuing to maintain the taxonomy overlay?

Question 3—Are there any other suggestions to improve accessibility and useability of the IFRS digital taxonomies and supporting materials?

① Existing taxonomy guides in HTML format



Background

- The IFRS Foundation maintains various public guides to assist stakeholders in understanding and using the IFRS digital taxonomies (see next slide)
- Historically, these guides have been published on the IFRS Foundation website in **pdf format**
- Feedback from a previous ITCG meeting suggested that these guides should be made available in HTML format to assist with their **dissemination and analysis using artificial intelligence (AI)**
- In HTML, the content of the guides would be included directly on the IFRS Foundation webpage, making the content more accessible compared to content in a pdf format
- Currently, the IFRS Standards themselves are available in HTML format, via the IFRS Standards Navigator (see slides 15–17)¹
- The staff are planning to convert and subsequently maintain all taxonomy guides from PDF to HTML format. Given resources required to update/maintain both formats, **the staff are considering maintaining only HTML formats, not both PDF and HTML.**

¹ Access the [IFRS Accounting Standards Navigator](#) and the [IFRS Sustainability Standards Navigator](#)

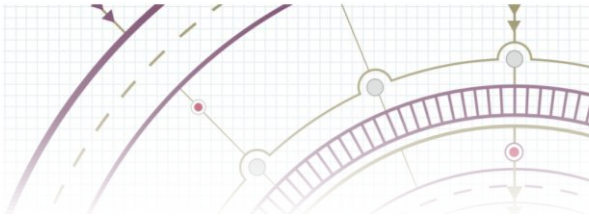
Guides to the IFRS digital taxonomies

January 2019

IFRS[®] Foundation
International Accounting Standards Board

Using the IFRS Taxonomy

A preparer's guide



- This [guide](#) is intended to help preparers—those companies that tag disclosures prepared in accordance with the IFRS Standards—understand the content of the IFRS Taxonomy
- Last updated in **January 2019**



Using the IFRS digital taxonomies

A guide for regulators implementing the IFRS digital taxonomies in a digital filing system



- This [guide](#) is intended to support regulators and filing system owners in implementing the IFRS digital taxonomies
- Last updated in **August 2024**



Using the IFRS digital taxonomies

The taxonomy architecture



- This [guide](#) demonstrates how the IFRS digital taxonomies are modelled and organised into a taxonomy architecture that mirrors the familiar structure of IFRS Standards
- Last updated in **June 2026**

Considerations for PDF and HTML formats

PDF format	HTML format
Requires full production and publication process to publish updates to guides which is very time-consuming, sometimes for small changes to the guides	Can be updated in parts, without involving the full production process, making updates to guides timelier and more relevant
Easier to include diagrams, figures, graphics for illustrative purposes, footnotes and endnotes	- Some graphics might not render in HTML format—limiting how content can be communicated (i.e. any content included in a diagram would need to be converted to text/tabular format) - Footnotes and endnotes can be included but might require an extra step to navigate to/from footnotes
Version control can be tracked easily by publication date, or by including past publications on the website	More difficult to keep track of past versions of the guides and to track what has changed from a previous version
More difficult for AI to access and understand, especially diagrams that cannot be read as plain text	Can more easily facilitate the interaction with AI in accessing and understanding our guides for the purposes of adoption and use of our taxonomies



Question 1—Are there any additional considerations for staff to consider when converting guides to HTML format? Given that we do not plan to maintain the guides in PDF, are there any concerns with only maintaining the taxonomy guides in HTML format?

② Taxonomy modelling policies guide



Background—purpose of the taxonomy modelling policies guide²



Facilitate consistent modelling approach between IFRS Taxonomy updates and across IFRS digital taxonomies. Such consistency supports comparability and helps make the consultation process more efficient and might solicit more effective feedback.



Maintain a living document that holds institutional knowledge of established taxonomy modelling policies and serves as documentation of staff thinking—including the decisions taken, the pros and cons of modelling approaches, and the rationale that underpins those decisions.



Provide clarity—for board members and ITCG members when reviewing staff recommendations and stakeholders when responding to consultations—to identify straight-forward taxonomy modelling decisions that conform with established practice, versus more controversial modelling decisions that may deviate from policies and require more attention.

² The taxonomy modelling policies guide has previously been discussed with the ITCG at the [September 2024 ITCG meeting](#) and the [July 2025 ITCG meeting](#)

Example of modelling policies—Narrative information



Increasingly granular narrative elements are not always more useful. Feedback from users of digital financial information indicate that narrative elements are more useful when they capture more information, especially when these blocks of information are analysed using artificial intelligence (AI).

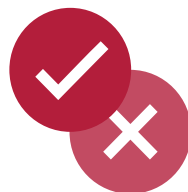
- Separate elements should be created for requirements that are expected to be:



understandable to users of general purpose financial reports separately; and readily identifiable for tagging.

at the most granular level(s) at which both requirements are met

- Categorical elements are created for all disclosure requirements that can be addressed in a categorical format—either responses in a **true/false format** or from a **list of possible options**:



Next steps

- The staff have been applying these modelling policies in the development of IFRS Taxonomy updates—for which the relevant policies have been included in an Appendix to the related taxonomy update document
- Through this process, a large enough suite of policies has been developed and can be published as an external guide, similar to the regulator's guide and the architecture guide
- **The purpose of the guide is to help readers understand how the IFRS digital taxonomies were developed and not necessarily to help stakeholders with the implementation of the taxonomies**
- The staff plan to publish the taxonomy modelling policies guide—in HTML format, similar to other external guides—as a living document, to be updated from time to time as and when new modelling policies are developed or to improve upon existing policies
- As part of this process, the guide will be shared for internal and external (ITCG) reviews prior to its publication
- Once finalised, the taxonomy modelling policies guide will be available on the IFRS Foundation website

③ Internal drafting guide



Background

- The IFRS digital taxonomies are modelled on the disclosure requirements in IFRS Standards **as they are**. It is therefore important to understand and consider the digital representation of disclosures when drafting disclosure requirements
- The staff have developed an internal guide that focusses on the **impact of drafting decisions on taxonomy modelling**. This guide is intended to help standard-setting teams consider digital reporting implications when drafting disclosure requirements and to ultimately enable consistent and effective modelling of our IFRS digital taxonomies.
- The core purpose of the guidance is to **connect** taxonomy modelling and standard-setting processes—making the taxonomy modelling process **more understandable** to standard-setting teams and using **lessons learned in taxonomy modelling to benefit drafting** of disclosure requirements

The guidance is **intended to**:

- ✓ Help standard-setting teams understand how drafting choices impact the resulting modelling in the IFRS digital taxonomies
- ✓ Integrate taxonomy modelling process earlier in the standard-setting process

The guidance is **not intended to**:

- ✗ Influence/change the meaning of the proposed requirements or override technical decisions made at public Board meetings
- ✗ Embed perceived/expected common reporting practice through the IFRS digital taxonomies

Next steps

- The staff have been using the drafting guide as a starting point for discussions with standard-setting teams as the underlying amendments/new Standards are developed
- Feedback is usually provided at the pre-ballot stage in the development of a consultation/final document and through various meetings with the standard-setting teams
- The staff plan to make the drafting guide resources available on the IFRS Foundation intranet for standard-setting teams to access



 Questions for standard-setting teams to consider	
These questions are intended to help standard-setting teams consider digital reporting implications when drafting presentation and disclosure requirements—without requiring detailed knowledge of digital reporting or taxonomy modelling.¹ Each question is accompanied by a short description of the potential digital reporting implication to provide further context.	
General questions	
What is the purpose of the disclosure requirements? For example—to provide disaggregation of information or details about the nature and risks of recognised assets or liabilities, unrecognised assets or liabilities or forward-looking information?	The Guidance for developing and drafting disclosure requirements in IFRS Accounting Standards describes the purpose of disclosure requirements. Understanding what the disclosure requirements are trying to achieve helps identify which information is likely to benefit from being modelled as distinct elements. Disclosure of the nature and risks of recognised assets or liabilities might be more useful when modelled using more granular, distinct elements, whereas the disclosure of entity-specific forward-looking information might be more useful when modelled as a text block element.
Does the proportionality of the disclosure requirement align with its intended purpose? For example—does the volume of required disclosure for a given topic meet or exceed investor information needs? How does this compare to requirements for other topics similar in nature?	Disclosure requirements that are disproportional to the information needs of investors can result in either insufficient or excessive elements being modelled in the taxonomy. Insufficient elements can create the need for preparers to create entity specific elements (extensions) to tag information disclosed for which there are no appropriate elements in the IFRS digital taxonomies. Extensions are typically more difficult for users of digital financial reports to understand and compare than elements in a base taxonomy. Excessive (and redundant) elements can make it harder for preparers to navigate the taxonomies and increases the risk that preparers will use an element to tag information that it may not correspond with.
Are the disclosure requirements clearly identifiable from other text in the Standard?	Presentation and disclosure requirements that are clearly identifiable—for example, by using the words “an entity shall disclose” or by including the disclosure requirements in a separate section—makes it easier to determine which requirements need to be modelled in the IFRS digital taxonomies.
Do the disclosure requirements clearly describe the information required to be disclosed? For example—do the requirements describe the information required to satisfy the disclosure objective?	The more specific the item of information required to be disclosed is, the easier it is to model these concepts as individual items in the IFRS digital taxonomies—which can facilitate digital comparability at a more granular level. For example, it is generally easier to model specific disclosure requirements when each item of information required to be disclosed (concept) is drafted in a separate paragraph or sub-paragraph (such as a separate disclosure item in a list).
Do the new disclosure requirements duplicate or leverage similar requirements in any other IFRS Standards? For example—could entities meet the requirements in other parts of the financial statements and if so, with which parts do you expect there to be overlap?	Existing disclosure requirements are likely to have existing elements in the IFRS digital taxonomies. When new disclosure requirements duplicate or leverage existing requirements, they might benefit from leveraging existing elements in the IFRS digital taxonomies rather than creating new elements to reflect existing concepts. Leveraging the use of existing elements, where possible, helps to connect related concepts and facilitates usability of digital financial information because all companies are using the same elements to tag related information, irrespective of where that information is disclosed.
How would entities report information disclosed in accordance with the requirements (i.e. what could the disclosures look like) and do the requirements speak to this? For example—could an entity achieve the disclosure requirement using a specific structured format?	Disclosure requirements that provide guidance on how the disclosed information may be reported can result in elements that are more tailored to expected reporting practice from the outset. More tailored elements facilitate better comparability of the tagged financial information. For example—a requirement to disclose a reconciliation can be modelled with specific monetary elements and calculation relationships whereas a requirement to disclose a quantitative explanation of changes in an amount might only be modelled using text block elements.

¹ Standard-setting teams are not expected to understand the details of taxonomy modelling and the XBRL specifications.

④ Taxonomy overlay in IFRS Standards Navigator



Background

- The IFRS Foundation maintains a taxonomy overlay to the IFRS Standards Navigator
- This overlay allows the user to see any taxonomy elements underneath the related presentation or disclosure requirements in the IFRS Standards
- The taxonomy files and supporting materials (ITIs) also contain a hyperlink linked to the reference which navigates the user to the specific paragraph and related taxonomy element in the IFRS Standards Navigator

Show: ☐ Annotation ☐ Blackline ☒ Taxonomy Collapse all -

117 A management-defined performance measure is a subtotal of income and expenses that (see [paragraphs B113–B122](#)):

(a) an entity uses in public communications outside financial statements;

(b) an entity uses to communicate to users of financial statements management's view of an aspect of the financial performance of the entity as a whole; and

(c) is not listed in [paragraph 118](#), or specifically required to be presented or disclosed by [IFRS Accounting Standards](#).

118 Subtotals of income and expenses that are not management-defined performance measure are:

(a) gross profit or loss (revenue minus cost of sales) and similar subtotals (see [paragraph B123](#));

Gross profit (loss), operating	Monetary	Duration,	330000, 800270
	Disclosure	Credit	

(b) operating profit or loss before depreciation, amortisation and impairments within the scope of [IAS 36](#);

Operating profit (loss) before depreciation, amortisation and impairments, operating	Monetary	Duration,	330000, 800270
	Disclosure	Credit	

Disclosure of reconciliation of management-defined performance measures	Line items represent concepts included in a table. These line items	Line items		
Total or subtotal listed in IFRS Accounting Standards				
Gross profit (loss), operating	The amount of revenue less cost of sales, in the operating	Monetary	Effective 2027-01-01 IFRS 18.118 a	https://taxonomy.ifrs.org/xifrs-link?type=IFRS&num=18&code=ifrs-tx-2025-en-r&anchor=para_118_a&doctype=Standard
Interest income (expense), operating	The amount of income and expense arising from interest	Monetary	Effective 2027-01-01 IFRS 18.B123 a	https://taxonomy.ifrs.org/xifrs-link?type=IFRS&num=18&code=ifrs-tx-2025-en-r&anchor=para_B123_a&doctype=Appendix&subtype=B
				https://taxonomy.ifrs.org/xifrs-link?type=IFRS&num=8&code=ifrs-tx-2025-en-r&anchor=para_23&doctype=Standard
				https://taxonomy.ifrs.org/xifrs-link?type=IFRS&num=8&code=ifrs-tx-2025-en-r&anchor=para_28_e&doctype=Standard
Fee and commission income (expense), operating	The amount of income or expense relating to fees and commissions	Monetary	Effective 2027-01-01 IFRS 18.B123 b	https://taxonomy.ifrs.org/xifrs-link?type=IFRS&num=18&code=ifrs-tx-2025-en-r&anchor=para_B123_b&doctype=Appendix&subtype=B
Insurance service result, operating	The amount comprising insurance revenue and insurance expense	Monetary	IFRS 17.80 a	https://taxonomy.ifrs.org/xifrs-link?type=IFRS&num=17&code=ifrs-tx-2025-en-r&anchor=para_80_a&doctype=Standard
				https://taxonomy.ifrs.org/xifrs-link?type=IFRS&num=18&code=ifrs-tx-2025-en-r&anchor=para_B123_c&doctype=Appendix&subtype=B
Financial result, operating	The amount of investment income minus insurance finance income	Monetary	Effective 2027-01-01 IFRS 18.B123 d	https://taxonomy.ifrs.org/xifrs-link?type=IFRS&num=18&code=ifrs-tx-2025-en-r&anchor=para_B123_d&doctype=Appendix&subtype=B
Rental income (expense), operating	The amount of income or expense arising from rental activities	Monetary	Effective 2027-01-01 IFRS 18.B123 e	https://taxonomy.ifrs.org/xifrs-link?type=IFRS&num=18&code=ifrs-tx-2025-en-r&anchor=para_B123_e&doctype=Appendix&subtype=B
Operating profit (loss) before depreciation, amortisation and impairments, operating	The operating profit or loss before depreciation, amortisation and impairments	Monetary	Effective 2027-01-01 IFRS 18.118 b	https://taxonomy.ifrs.org/xifrs-link?type=IFRS&num=18&code=ifrs-tx-2025-en-r&anchor=para_118_b&doctype=Standard
Operating profit (loss), operating	The total of all income and expenses classified in the operating profit or loss	Monetary	Effective 2027-01-01 IAS 7.18 b	https://taxonomy.ifrs.org/xifrs-link?type=IAS&num=7&code=ifrs-tx-2025-en-r&anchor=para_18_b&doctype=Standard
				https://taxonomy.ifrs.org/xifrs-link?type=IFRS&num=18&code=ifrs-tx-2025-en-r&anchor=para_69_a&doctype=Standard

Future of taxonomy overlay function

- Since we've changed our taxonomy updates process to reflect new/amended IFRS Standards between July and June of the next year, the content of the IFRS digital taxonomies would not necessarily align with the content of the annual compilation of IFRS Standards
- This raises a question of how to deal with the differences between the Taxonomy and the IFRS Standards in the IFRS Standards Navigator—for example:
 - New requirements for which there are no related taxonomy elements—could include a disclaimer noting that taxonomy elements are yet to be created for these requirements; but
 - Existing requirements which have changed as a result of recent amendments—these are slightly more challenging to address, since the existing taxonomy elements might not align with the changed requirements in the IFRS Standards
- There is also a question of the overarching resource requirements to manage these differences on a case-by-case basis
- Furthermore, in 2026 since we did not publish an updated IFRS Accounting Taxonomy, we did not release a taxonomy layer for the 2026 IFRS Standards Navigator



Question 2—Do you use the taxonomy overlay in the IFRS Standards Navigator? Is the functionality useful to you?

- If so—do you have any suggestions for dealing with the differences between the IFRS Taxonomy and the IFRS Standards?
- If not—is there utility in continuing to maintain the taxonomy overlay?

Question



Question 3—Are there any other suggestions to improve accessibility and useability of the IFRS digital taxonomies and supporting materials?

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