

IFRS Foundation
International Accounting Standards Board
(IASB)

Using the IFRS Taxonomy

A preparer's guide

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Taxonomy Consultative Group

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Introduction

Aims

1. The aim of this guide is to help preparers understand the IFRS Taxonomy content. For the context of this guide, a preparer is defined as someone who tags disclosures within electronic IFRS financial statements using the IFRS Taxonomy. A good appreciation of how the IFRS Taxonomy content is intended to be used and how it is structured can support the quality and consistency of data tagging as applied to IFRS disclosures.
2. This document assumes that a preparer has a reasonable knowledge of the IFRS Standards® ('the Standards'). It does not assume detailed knowledge of eXtensible Business Reporting Language ('XBRL'), but it may help to have read introductory materials on this subject.
3. This document forms part of a set of documentation aimed at supporting the use and adoption of the IFRS Taxonomy around the world by regulators, preparers, investors and all other related organisations and users.

What this guide covers

4. Section 1 'Getting Started' provides a short introduction to the IFRS Taxonomy. It answers general questions, such as what content is included within the IFRS Taxonomy and when is the IFRS Taxonomy updated.
5. Section 2 'Taxonomy elements—line items, members and axes' explains how a preparer can use the elements of the IFRS Taxonomy to tag IFRS disclosures.
6. Section 3 'Understanding the accounting meaning of an IFRS Taxonomy element' describes the IFRS Taxonomy content a preparer can use to understand the accounting meaning of an element. Understanding the accounting meaning of an element helps a preparer select the correct elements when tagging IFRS financial statements.
7. Section 4 'Using the IFRS Taxonomy structure to find the correct element' explains the IFRS Taxonomy features a preparer can use to help navigate its content and find the correct element(s).
8. Section 5 'Correct use of IFRS Taxonomy elements—negative values' provides information on how a preparer can use IFRS Taxonomy content to correctly use a negative or positive sign to report the value of an IFRS Taxonomy element.
9. Section 6 'Reporting of specific values using the IFRS Taxonomy' explains how a preparer can use the IFRS Taxonomy content to report values representing a time band, a range, a cross-reference to another part of the annual report, a location of a disclosure and a current versus non-current value.
10. Section 7 'Use of the IFRS Taxonomy by a filing system owner' summarizes how a filing system owner may use the IFRS Taxonomy and how this may affect the guidance or explanations provided in this guide. A filing system owner, such as a securities regulator, sets policies for the filing and tagging of electronic financial statements. Filing system owners may use the IFRS Taxonomy differently and this may affect for instance the IFRS Taxonomy content that is available to preparers for tagging their IFRS disclosures or whether a preparer can add their own elements.
11. This guide does not cover:
 - (a) A description of the specific rules, guidelines or taxonomy in use by a particular filing system owner. The filing system owner should be able to provide such a description. This guide will complement that description and should be used in conjunction with it; and
 - (b) A description of the actual physical process a preparer may need to follow to tag IFRS financial statements. The actual process followed may be quite different depending on the tools the preparer uses.
12. This guide is general in nature. In particular, it does not explain the use of or provide guidance on specific IFRS Taxonomy elements.

Stay informed

13. You can register for email updates to ensure you keep up to date with changes and news relating to the IFRS Taxonomy. This is one of the options available via the 'Stay informed' tab on the website of the IFRS Foundation.

Section 1- Getting started

What is a taxonomy?

14. A taxonomy is a classification system. One purpose of a taxonomy is to identify and structure information so that it can be found easily by a consumer of that information. For example, a retailer may use a taxonomy to classify its products based on categories, size, colour and price range. When we shop online, this allows us to quickly find the specific product we are interested in. A second purpose of a taxonomy is to allow information to be delivered in a structured electronic format so that it be accessed timely and processed easily by a recipient of that information. For example, a shopper can place an online order by selecting a specific product which can then be processed automatically by the retailer.

What is the IFRS Taxonomy and what are its objectives?

15. The IFRS Taxonomy (or simply 'Taxonomy' hereafter) is the Taxonomy as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ('the Board') and the IFRS Foundation for financial statements prepared in accordance with the IFRS Standards. It incorporates:
 - (a) the full IFRS Taxonomy—this is the Taxonomy applicable to IFRS financial statements prepared in accordance with the full IFRS Standards;
 - (b) the IFRS Taxonomy for SMEs—this is the Taxonomy applicable to IFRS financial statements prepared in accordance with the *IFRS for SMEs*[®] Standard; and
 - (c) the IFRS Taxonomy for Management Commentary—this is the Taxonomy applicable to the IFRS Practice Statement *Management Commentary*.
16. The Taxonomy lists and defines the specific codes (called elements hereafter) which preparers can use to identify ('to tag') the information disclosed within IFRS financial statements. Once the information is tagged in this way, a preparer can communicate and deliver the tagged data directly to users of its IFRS financial statements employing a technology such as the eXtensible Business Reporting Language ('XBRL'). Tagging information enables users to find easily a particular disclosure within a set of IFRS financial statements, for example through searching on specific elements. Tagging information also enables users to quickly and cost effectively process, store and analyse the data using appropriate software and tools.
17. The Taxonomy does not prescribe or provide guidance regarding the content and presentation of IFRS financial statements. It simply provides a means to tag IFRS disclosures. The content and presentation of IFRS financial statements is determined solely by the Standards, and the resultant financial statement content drives the choice of which Taxonomy elements to use to tag IFRS disclosures.

What content is included within the Taxonomy?

18. The Taxonomy elements have been obtained from two sources:
 - (a) the IFRS Standards and its accompanying materials (see paragraph 21); and
 - (b) IFRS common reporting practice (see paragraphs 22 to 25).
19. While the nature of IFRS financial reporting inevitably means that a large number of elements within the Taxonomy relate to monetary disclosures, the Taxonomy also incorporates elements to tag a range of other types of content, such as company names, the date of an acquisition, disclosure of information about business combinations or a description of a retirement benefit plan.
20. The Taxonomy also includes content that supports the correct use of an element by a preparer. This is further discussed within sections 3 and 5 of this guide.

IFRS Standards and accompanying materials to the Standards

21. The IFRS Taxonomy includes elements that reflect the presentation and disclosure requirements of the Standards as issued by the Board. The Taxonomy content also includes elements from the accompanying materials to the Standards (Implementation Guidance and Illustrative Examples) and a small number of elements reflecting the IFRS Practice Statement *Management Commentary*.

IFRS common reporting practice

22. A common practice element is one which:
- (a) is not specifically mentioned in the Standards or its accompanying materials, but which is, nonetheless, consistent with the Standards; and
 - (b) has been found to be frequently disclosed across a range of companies and accounting jurisdictions. This has been established by conducting empirical reviews of samples of IFRS financial statements either from certain business sectors or with respect to disclosures relating to a particular Standard.
23. This means that, to be included, common practice elements have been empirically demonstrated to be reported as such in practice by entities applying the Standards. Please note that while common practice elements are part of the Taxonomy, this neither implies that these elements are required by the Standards nor that these elements provide guidance as to how the Standards should or could be implemented.
24. At the time of writing this guide, no common practice analysis has been undertaken for IFRS reporting for SMEs or for the management commentary. Such analysis may be undertaken at a future date.
25. A *Guide to Common Practice Content* is available on the IFRS website. This guide explains what common practice content is and the process for adding this content to the Taxonomy.

How can I identify the source of a Taxonomy element?

26. Elements have a reference type that can be used to understand the source of the element. Element reference types used within the Taxonomy are:
- (a) 'Disclosure' indicating that this element depicts a disclosure requirement of a Standard;
 - (b) 'Example' indicating that this element represents an example provided in the Standard or its accompanying materials; or
 - (c) 'Common practice' indicating that this element reflect IFRS common reporting practice.

Example—element reference types

Element	Element reference type
Goodwill	Disclosure
Brand names	Example
Finance income (cost)	Common practice

How can I access and view the IFRS Taxonomy content?

27. *xIFRS* is an online tool developed by the IFRS Foundation that provides a view of the electronic Standards ('eIFRS') with embedded Taxonomy content. It is available for both the full IFRS Standards and the *IFRS for SMEs* Standard. It is published on the website of the IFRS Foundation.
28. *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* is a document, published by the IFRS Foundation, which displays the Taxonomy content in both PDF and HTML formats. The HTML version includes Taxonomy element definitions (these are not available in the PDF format) and additional features to assist navigation. A specific guide '*The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated Guide*' describes the layout of the *IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* and how to navigate its content. This guide is published on the website of the IFRS Foundation.
29. The *IFRS Taxonomy Files* are the files used to express and deliver the Taxonomy content. These files allow computers to automatically process the Taxonomy and to render its content using various software applications. The IFRS Foundation publishes the *IFRS Taxonomy Files* using the XBRL syntax. You can download the XBRL files from the IFRS website and view them with specialist external XBRL software. For more information on how to use and work with XBRL, please see the XBRL International website: <http://www.xbrl.org>.

When is the Taxonomy updated?

30. Updates to the Taxonomy occur throughout the year. The principal reason for an update is to reflect the publication of new or amended Standards. Once a Standard is finalised, its presentation and disclosure requirements are then identified and incorporated into a *Proposed IFRS Taxonomy Update*. These Taxonomy amendments are then subject to public consultation before final approval by the Board and release to preparers and other end-users of the final *IFRS Taxonomy Update* and the final IFRS Taxonomy files.
31. Taxonomy updates may also be released as a result of common practice projects, to make improvements to the Taxonomy or to reflect updates to the technology of the Taxonomy.
32. Each year a compilation of all final *IFRS Taxonomy Updates* is published ('the annual IFRS Taxonomy'). The annual IFRS Taxonomy is normally released in the first quarter of the year. The annual IFRS Taxonomy is not subject to separate public consultation as it only includes updates which have already gone through the public consultation process.
33. Information about the changes made to the IFRS Taxonomy content ('versioning information') is produced with each update. Versioning information allows a preparer to identify the specific changes made to, for example:
 - (a) the elements;
 - (b) the elements' labels and references; or
 - (c) the Taxonomy structure.
34. The versioning information is published on the website of the IFRS Foundation and is available for both *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* and the *IFRS Taxonomy Files*.

Does the IFRS Foundation publish examples illustrating the use of the Taxonomy?

35. The accompanying materials to the Standards include presentation and disclosure examples. Most of these examples have been tagged by the IFRS Foundation using the Taxonomy elements and the XBRL syntax. The resulting XBRL and Inline XBRL files are published on the website of the IFRS Foundation.

Section 2 - Taxonomy elements—line items, members and axes

Overview

36. In this guide, the term 'element' is used to describe in general terms those components of the Taxonomy that can be used to tag disclosures within a set of IFRS financial statements.¹ These components are line items, members and axes, and are described in detail within this section of the guide.
37. Elements have labels that describe their accounting meaning to human readers. Each Taxonomy element also has unique computer-readable technical codes—for example, the 'element name'. A preparer should not use (and does not need to know) the computer codes when identifying the correct element to tag IFRS financial statements as these codes are not intended to infer to a preparer what the accounting meaning of an element is. It is a code used to identify an element to a computer.
38. It is for this reason that while the computer-readable technical codes are available within the XBRL *IFRS Taxonomy Files* they are not found within *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* or *xIFRS*. Elements are displayed using only their human-readable labels within *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* and *xIFRS*. The same policy of only using element labels has also been applied to the examples provided in this guide.

What are line items?

39. Line items represent individual accounting concepts. For example, the following line items depict some of the disclosure requirements of IAS 16 *Property, Plant and Equipment*:

¹ The Taxonomy also includes abstract elements that cannot be used for tagging but are intended to aid preparers to navigate around the Taxonomy. Abstract elements are further explained in paragraphs 96 and 97 of this guide.

Line item label

Useful lives or depreciation rate used, property, plant and equipment

Disposals, property, plant and equipment

Contractual commitments for acquisition of property, plant and equipment

What are axes and axis members?

40. Axes are elements that are mainly used to disclose information for line items from different aspects, such as, the disaggregation of the information for line items into different product types, categories, classes and maturities. The axis is the specific aspect being considered. An axis includes one or more components (called members) which share the common accounting or economic meaning defined by that axis. For example, the following axes and members depict the disclosure requirements (and related common practice) of IAS 16 *Property, Plant and Equipment*:

Axis label	Member label
Classes of property, plant and equipment [axis]	Land [member] Aircraft [member]
Carrying amount, accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment and gross carrying amount [axis]	Accumulated depreciation and amortisation [member] Gross carrying amount [member]

41. In the Taxonomy, members are either shown as belonging to an axis as a flat list of items or, alternatively, where appropriate, the Taxonomy includes a roll-up (also called child-parent presentation relationship) between the members. Presentation relationships are further discussed in section 4.

Example—relationships between members belonging to the axis ‘Classes of property, plant and equipment’

Disclosure of detailed information about property, plant and equipment [abstract]	
Disclosure of detailed information about property, plant and equipment [table]	table
Classes of property, plant and equipment [axis]	axis
Property, plant and equipment [member]	member[default]
Land and buildings [member]	member
Land [member]	member
Buildings [member]	member
Machinery [member]	member

Figure 1 Extract from *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* presenting the member ‘Land and buildings’ as the parent of the members ‘Land’ and ‘Buildings’

42. It is possible for some members to belong to different axes within the Taxonomy, as long as the accounting meaning of that member does not change. For example, the member ‘Buildings’ is included within the ‘Classes of property, plant and equipment’ axis and the ‘Classes of assets’ axis.

How do I use axes and members to tag IFRS disclosures?

43. Members and axes cannot be used on their own, but are used together with line items to tag (and hence to convey the accounting meaning) of IFRS disclosures. For example, to tag the IFRS disclosure depicting the gross amount relating to the disposal of an aircraft, a preparer would need to use the members ‘Aircraft’ and ‘Gross carrying amount’ together with the line item ‘Disposals property, plant and equipment’.

44. The combination of line items, axes and axis members is called a table within the Taxonomy. The Taxonomy includes a number of tables that illustrate the combined use of line items, axes and members for tagging IFRS disclosures. Taxonomy tables are discussed further in detail from paragraph 113 of this guide.
45. In the XBRL technical specification, axes can be either ‘explicit’ or ‘typed’. An explicit dimension has its members specified within an XBRL taxonomy, whereas a typed dimension has its members specified within the XBRL filing containing the tagged data. The Taxonomy only includes explicit axes. This means that, where permitted to do so by a regulator, a preparer wishing to add their own member to tag an entity-specific disclosure (for example, a specific class of property, plant and equipment) would need to create an extension taxonomy.
46. When the use of an extension taxonomy is permitted by a regulator, a preparer has to consider whether they are using the Taxonomy elements in an appropriate way. For example, the member ‘buildings’ referred to in paragraph 42 should not be described within an extension taxonomy as belonging to an extension axis labelled ‘classes of inventories’. This is not consistent with the intended accounting meaning of the member ‘buildings’ which has been defined within the Taxonomy as ‘a class or plant, property and equipment representing depreciable buildings and similar structures for use in operations’.

What happens if the available members do not fit your reporting?

47. The Taxonomy includes some axes containing all members expected to be required to fit your reporting. While it is possible for a preparer to add one or more members as extensions to such an axis, in practice it should not be necessary. For example, paragraph 73 of IAS 16 *Property, Plant and Equipment* requires that ‘The financial statements shall disclose ... the gross carrying amount and the accumulated depreciation (aggregated with accumulated impairment losses) at the beginning and the end of the period ...’ The axis and its members reflecting this disclosure have been provided in the Taxonomy and consist of a finite list of members:

Carrying amount, accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment and gross carrying amount [axis] – members

Carrying amount
Gross carrying amount
Accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment
Accumulated depreciation and amortisation
Accumulated impairment

48. However, other axes within the Taxonomy may not have all members available to cover your specific reporting. The available members within the Taxonomy are based on the disclosure requirements and examples of the Standards plus those identified as being common reporting practice. For example, the IFRS Taxonomy axis for ‘Classes of property, plant and equipment’ includes an extensive list of members, but it is possible that it does not include a member that is relevant to your particular reporting.
49. In such cases, and when permitted by a filing system owner, an entity can add extension members to enable full tagging to be carried out. Please note that it is possible that the regulator of the local filing rules under which a preparer is operating may have added specific members (or specific features) within an extension to the Taxonomy and does not permit a preparer to create their own extensions.
50. If local filing rules do allow the use of Taxonomy extensions, then any such an extension member must be consistent with the accounting meaning of the Taxonomy axis to which it belongs. It is also good tagging practice for any such extension member to be used consistently both within a financial report and across financial reporting periods.

What are Taxonomy default members and how can I use them?

51. All axes within the Taxonomy have a default member. A default member represents the standard value for an axis which is considered to apply by default to a Taxonomy line item—ie when a preparer does not explicitly specify a particular member of an axis to be used in conjunction with a line item.

52. Usually the default member of an axis within the Taxonomy is the total of the particular accounting concept being tagged. For example, the member 'Property, plant and equipment' is the default for the axis 'Classes of property, plant and equipment' and is defined as the aggregate of all possible classes of property, plant and equipment. Using the line item 'Disposal property, plant and equipment' to tag a disclosure without any member of this axis means that the value of this line item represents the aggregate amount of disposals (ie the total value of disposals for all possible classes of property, plant and equipment).
53. Labels for members within the Taxonomy do not include any wording describing them as a default member. This is to allow the use of the same member in different axes. For example, the member 'Property, plant and equipment' within the Taxonomy is the default member for the axis 'Classes of property, plant and equipment' but is also a non-default member of the axis 'Classes of assets' (the default member for this axis is 'Assets', representing the total of all assets). The way default members are indicated within software may vary. In *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated*, the default member is presented in the second column, as illustrated in the example within paragraph 41 above. In xIFRS, this information is presented in the column labelled 'Data type'.
54. When a preparer's extension taxonomy is permitted by a filing system owner, a preparer can use a default member of a specific Taxonomy axis and add it as a (non-default) member to another Taxonomy axis or to an extension axis added by the preparer where appropriate.
55. A preparer should avoid altering the default member of an axis that has been specified within the Taxonomy. For example, in the Taxonomy axis, 'Classes of property, plant and equipment', the default member is 'Property, plant and equipment'. A preparer should avoid defining another member (extension member or existing Taxonomy member) as the default member of this axis. The result may be confusing to data consumers as they expect that the values of line items (such as 'Disposals, property, plant and equipment') not used in combination with a member of this axis to represent the value for all classes of 'Property, plant and equipment'.

Why do some axes only contain a default member?

56. Some Taxonomy axes only have a single default member specified. These axes represent parts of the Standard likely to result in a significant number of entity-specific disclosures. For example:

Example—Taxonomy axis with only a default member

Disclosure of products and services [table]	table
Products and services [axis]	axis
Products and services [member]	member[default]
Disclosure of products and services [line items]	line items

Figure 2 Extract from *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* presenting a Taxonomy axis with only a default member

Paragraph 32 of IFRS 8 *Operating Segments*, requires that 'An entity shall report the revenues from external customers for each product or service, or each group of similar product or services ...' Disclosure by '...each product or service or each group of similar products or services' is likely to be entity-specific and therefore is modelled in the Taxonomy as an axis with only a default member specified representing the amount applicable to all products and services.

57. Other reasons for axes containing only a default members are:
 - (a) the Standards do not indicate any specific members and a common practice review has not yet been undertaken, this mainly applies to IFRS Standards that are not yet effective and/or only have recently become effective; or
 - (b) a detailed specification of members for a particular axis is not considered to be within the scope of the IFRS Taxonomy content.
58. In such cases, if complete tagging is required, it is necessary for an entity to add extension members. Or alternatively, when the use of preparer's extensions is not permitted, a filing system owner may have included specific taxonomy features or have extended the Taxonomy.

Taxonomy default members that are not the natural total of their axis

59. Not all axes in the Taxonomy contain members that naturally form a mathematical total. In these cases, the default member represents a specific (non-total) value. For example:

Example—Taxonomy default member that represents a specific (non-total) value

[913000] Axis - Consolidated and separate financial statements	
Consolidated and separate financial statements [axis]	axis
Consolidated [member]	member[default]
Separate [member]	member

Figure 3 Extract from *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* displaying the members of the Axis ‘Consolidated and separate financial statements’.

In the above example, the ‘Consolidated’ member is the default member. Consequently, all line items used for tagging represent the consolidated values, unless the line items are used in combination with the ‘Separate’ member to report the data relating to separate financial statements.

60. Additionally, there are some axes within the Taxonomy with a default member representing the consolidated entity value rather than the total of the members belonging to that axis. For example:

Example—Taxonomy default member that represents the consolidated entity value

Subsidiaries [axis]	axis
Entity's total for subsidiaries [member]	member[default]
Subsidiaries [member]	member
Subsidiaries with material non-controlling interests [member]	member

Figure 4 Extract from *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* presenting a Taxonomy default member that represents the consolidated entity value

In the above example, the Taxonomy axis ‘Subsidiaries’ has as its default member ‘Entity’s total for subsidiaries’ but also the (non-default) member ‘Subsidiaries’. Tagging line items, such as ‘Revenue’, with the member ‘Subsidiaries’ represents the sum of the revenues of all the individual subsidiaries, whereas tagging the line item ‘Revenue’ without a specific member (ie using the default) represents the value for the consolidated entity.

Taxonomy equivalent elements and element combinations

61. The Taxonomy includes some line items and members that have the same accounting meaning (‘equivalent elements’). In addition, the Taxonomy also includes line items that are equivalent in accounting meaning to a line item when combined with a specific member (‘equivalent element combinations’).

Example—equivalent elements and equivalent element combinations

The line item is equivalent to ...
Bearer plants	the member ‘Bearer plants’ (equivalent element)
Impairment loss recognised in profit or loss, trade receivables	the line item ‘Impairment loss recognised in profit or loss’ when combined with the member ‘Trade receivables’ (equivalent element combination)

62. Line items are added within the Taxonomy for IFRS disclosures that are required to be or are commonly presented in the primary financial statements, even when an equivalent member or equivalent element

combination exist within the Taxonomy. They exist to cater for the need of some filing system owners who only permit the use of line items for their primary financial statements.

Section 3 - Understanding the accounting meaning of an IFRS Taxonomy element

Why do I need to understand the accounting meaning of an element?

63. As described in section 7 'Use of the IFRS Taxonomy by a filing system owner', filing system owners set the rules and/or guidelines that preparers need to follow when tagging IFRS financial statements using the IFRS Taxonomy. These filing rules often refer to the notion of the accounting meaning of a Taxonomy element. Examples of such filing rules could be:
- map your disclosures to the Taxonomy element with the closest accounting meaning;
 - where there appears to be a choice of Taxonomy elements, tagging the one representing the narrowest accounting concept should be chosen; and
 - if use of the closest available Taxonomy element would misrepresent the accounting meaning of a disclosure, then an extension element should be created.
64. The following section describes the IFRS Taxonomy content a preparer can use to understand the accounting meaning of an element.

What Taxonomy content is available?

65. Paragraph 37 of this guide introduced the concept of element labels for Taxonomy elements. Computerised searching through the element labels (using software or by searching *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* or *xIFRS*) can help a preparer identify the correct element. However, the IFRS Foundation advises preparers not to rely on the elements labels alone to understand the accounting meaning of an element. A comprehensive list of factors a preparer needs to consider are:
- Taxonomy element labels, particularly in comparison to the specific label description used by an entity (see paragraphs 66 to 72);
 - Taxonomy documentation labels (see paragraphs 73 to 75);
 - references to the Standards (see paragraphs 76 to 79);
 - effective and expiry dates (see paragraphs 80 to 85); and
 - other element attributes, such as instant or duration (see paragraphs 86 to 87).

Taxonomy element labels

66. Element labels provide human-readable descriptions of the accounting meaning of a Taxonomy element. Each element in the Taxonomy has a standard label. Standard labels normally match the wording of the Standards. For common practice content, the standard label of an element normally reflects the wording that is most commonly used in practice or alternatively describes the accounting meaning of an element more precisely.
67. The standard label of an element is often longer and more detailed or may be phrased differently to the label being reported in practice within IFRS financial statements. This by itself is not sufficient reason for a preparer to decide against using a particular Taxonomy element.² A preparer has to consider the accounting meaning of a Taxonomy element when making this judgement. For example, a disclosure described by an entity as 'Issue of share capital' and presented in the Statement of cash flows as a cash inflow could be tagged to the Taxonomy line item with the standard label 'Proceeds from issuing shares'.
68. As well as the standard label, some Taxonomy elements may also have additional labels to indicate a total within the label and/or distinguish between opening and closing balances. These labels do not alter the accounting meaning of an element but are used for presentation purposes when displaying the Taxonomy content. *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* displays the period start, period end and total labels instead of the element standard labels.

² Please note that a filing system owner may require an entity to add an extension element when labels do not match.

Example—total, period start and period end labels for a single Taxonomy element

Element label	Label type	Purpose
Property, plant and equipment	Standard label	To display a line item within the Statement of financial position
Total property, plant and equipment	Total label	To display the total of a list of existing Taxonomy elements
Property, plant and equipment at beginning of period	Period start label	To display beginning balance within a reconciliation
Property, plant and equipment at end of period	Period end label	To display ending balance within a reconciliation

69. Another type of label used within the Taxonomy is the negated label. The use of a negated label does not alter the accounting meaning of an element but is used for presentation in a report only. Negated labels make it possible for the label description of an element to match (‘as seen through the eyes of a human reader’) the presentation sign used in that report to display the value of that disclosure. This is best explained through an example:

Example—negated labels and display within The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated

The value for ‘cost of sales’ and ‘income taxes’ are often presented between brackets on the statement of profit and loss in a human-readable report. This presentation style has also been used for *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* with negative values being presented as (X) in the second column.

Profit (loss) before tax	X duration, credit
Tax income (expense)	(X) duration, debit
Profit (loss) from continuing operations	X duration, credit

Revenue	X duration, credit
Interest revenue calculated using effective interest method	X duration, credit
Cost of sales	(X) duration, debit
Gross profit	X duration, credit

Figure 5 Extract from *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* displaying negated labels of elements

The labels within *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* are aligned to the presentation style for values. A human reader intuitively understands that cost of sales is deducted from revenue to arrive at gross profit. A human reader also intuitively understands that a value of (100) for the element with the label ‘Tax income (expense)’ represents an expense item. This presentation style for labels might not, however, correspond with the standard label of an element. The use of negated labels makes it possible to align presentation of description and values for a human reader:

Element standard label	Element negated label
Cost of sales	Cost of sales
Tax expense (income), continuing operations	Tax income (expense)

70. Preparers should be aware that the use of a negated label only affects the way the value of a Taxonomy element is presented in a report. It does not change the sign of the value to be reported in the structured electronic filing itself. This is determined by the standard label (and, where available, balance attribute) of a Taxonomy element. The balance attribute of an element is explained in paragraph 132 of this guide.
71. A preparer, when permitted by a regulator to use an extension taxonomy to preserve their entity-specific labels, should not add a standard label to a Taxonomy element in such a way that it reverses the signage. Reversing signage can change the intended accounting meaning of an element, and may be confusing to consumers of the tagged data. For example, a preparer should not use the Taxonomy element with the Taxonomy standard label 'Tax expense (income), continuing operations' and add within their extension Taxonomy a standard label 'Tax credited (charged)' for this element in order to match it to the label and the sign presented within its financial statements.
72. All the Taxonomy labels are provided in English. A list of available translations can be found on the website of the IFRS Foundation.

Documentation labels

73. All line items, axes and members, have a documentation label which provides a definition of the element. Where available, the source of the documentation label is the Standards or its accompanying materials. The documentation labels of Taxonomy common practice elements are usually defined broadly as normally there is no authoritative source that can be used.

Example—documentation labels

Element standard label	Documentation label	Element reference type
Property, plant and equipment	The amount of tangible assets that: (a) are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes; and (b) are expected to be used during more than one period	Disclosure
Finance income (cost)	The amount of income or cost associated with interest and other financing activities of the entity	Common practice

The documentation label used for 'Property, plant and equipment' reflects the wording of paragraph 6 of IAS 16 *Property, Plant and Equipment*. The element 'Finance income (cost)' is a common practice element.

74. The documentation label may cross-refer to the documentation provided for one or more other Taxonomy elements. Any such references are shown in square brackets:

Example—cross-reference to an element in a documentation label

Element	Documentation label
Buildings [member]	This member stands for a class of plant, property and equipment representing depreciable buildings and similar structures for use in operations. [Refer: Property, plant and equipment]

75. Documentation labels can be found in *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* (HTML version) and in the 'Excel spreadsheet definitions' that is published on the website of the IFRS Foundation. They are also included within the *IFRS Taxonomy File*.

References to the Standards

76. Each Taxonomy element has at least one reference that provides the cross-reference to the relevant Standard(s). For each element reference, the Taxonomy provides, as a minimum, the name (ie the type of Standard/document, eg IFRS, IAS, IFRIC), number, paragraph or section. The only exception is the *IFRS for SMEs* Standard and the *IFRS Practice Statement Management Commentary*, where numbers are not applicable.

Example—element references to the Standards

97	When items of income or expense are <u>material</u> , an entity shall disclose their nature and amount separately.
98	Circumstances that would give rise to the separate disclosure of items of income and expense include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) write-downs of inventories to net realisable value or of property, plant and equipment to recoverable amount, as well as reversals of such write-downs; (b) restructurings of the activities of an entity and reversals of any provisions for the costs of restructuring; (c) disposals of items of property, plant and equipment; (d) disposals of investments; (e) discontinued operations; (f) litigation settlements; and (g) other reversals of provisions.

Figure 6 Example of a disclosure requirement of IAS 1 *Presentation of Financial Statements*

The disclosure relating to restructuring has a reference to the Standards as follows:

Element standard label	Element reference to the Standards
Expense of restructuring activities	IAS 1.98 b

77. Elements sourced from the accompanying materials to the Standards have a direct cross-reference to the accompanying materials. In addition they also have a reference to the Standards that describes the general disclosure requirement for that element.

Example—element reference to the Standards

Element standard label	Element references to the Standards and its accompanying materials
Date of grant of share-based payment arrangement	IFRS 2.45 and IFRS 2.IG23

In the above example ‘IG’ refers to the guidance on implementing IFRS 2 *Share-based Payment*.

78. References also exist for elements that represent common practice disclosures. In these cases, the references are to the paragraph(s) in the Standards that provide the most appropriate context.
79. The *IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* provides functionality that allows the user to navigate from a Taxonomy element directly to the electronic version of the Standards. This functionality is accessed by clicking on an element reference within the document.

Effective and Expiry dates

80. The Standards usually permit early application. Amended or new Standards may replace or supersede an existing Standard and/or particular paragraphs within an existing Standard. Amendments may also include changes to definitions of accounting concepts.
81. Therefore, elements included within the Taxonomy may relate to Standards that:
 - (a) have been issued but are not yet effective, but which could be applied early;
 - (b) are still applicable but will expire in a subsequent year; and
 - (c) are applicable and will not expire in a subsequent year.
82. The Taxonomy element’s references (and documentation labels in case of a change in definition) contain details regarding the effective date and/or expiry date. The element reference(s) and/or a documentation label may include both an effective and expiry date.

Example 1 —documentation label including effective and expiry dates

Element	Documentation label
Investment property	<p><i>Expiry date 2019-01-01:</i> The amount of property (land or a building—or part of a building—or both) held (by the owner or by the lessee under a finance lease) to earn rentals or for capital appreciation or both, rather than for: (a) use in the production or supply of goods or services or for administrative purposes; or (b) sale in the ordinary course of business.</p> <p><i>Effective 2019-01-01:</i> The amount of property (land or a building—or part of a building—or both) held (by the owner or by the lessee as a right-of-use asset) to earn rentals or for capital appreciation or both, rather than for: (a) use in the production or supply of goods or services or for administrative purposes; or (b) sale in the ordinary course of business.</p>

Example 2 —element references including effective and expiry dates

Element	References as displayed within <i>The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated</i>
Non-current financial liabilities at amortised cost	<p>Expiry date 2018-01-01 IFRS 7.8 f Disclosure</p> <p>Effective 2018-01-01 IFRS 7.8 g Disclosure</p>

83. When a new or amended Standard replaces a Standard, a preparer who is early applying the new or amended Standard may prefer to disregard Taxonomy elements related to the replaced Standard that only have an expiry date reference. A preparer not applying a Standard before the effective date should disregard those Taxonomy elements related to the new Standard that only have an effective date reference.
84. The effective and expiry dates are updated each year when the annual IFRS Taxonomy is released. These dates are also updated in the Taxonomy updates released during the year but only to reflect the changes resulting directly from the publication of the new or amended Standards to which the Taxonomy update relates.
85. Once an element is no longer effective for IFRS reporting, it is deprecated. Deprecation may also happen for other reasons, such as general taxonomy improvements to how a disclosure is modelled or to the correction of an error. Deprecated elements are not available within *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* or within the ‘Definitions in Excel’ published on the website of the IFRS Foundation.

Other element attributes

86. Taxonomy elements have a number of other attributes which may help a preparer to understand the intended accounting meaning of a Taxonomy element. One of these attributes is the element type:

Element type	Description	Display format used in <i>The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated</i> and <i>xIFRS</i>
Monetary	<p>This data type is used for a numeric element (other than per share data), in which its values are denominated in a specific currency unit.</p> <p>Example: Disposals, property, plant and equipment.</p>	<p>X positive</p> <p>(X) negative</p>
Per share	<p>This data type is used for a numeric element in which its values are denominated on a ‘currency per share’ unit basis.</p> <p>Example: Basic earnings (loss) per share.</p>	X.XX

Element type	Description	Display format used in The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated and xIFRS
Shares	This data type is used for a numeric element in which its values are denominated on a 'number of shares' unit basis. Example: 'Number of shares issued and fully paid'.	Shares
Percentage	This data type is used for a numeric element in which its values are denominated as a rate or percentage unit. Example: 'Actuarial assumption of discount rates', 'Proportion of voting rights held in associate'.	X.XX
Decimal	This data type is used for a numeric element in which its values are denominated on a unit basis other than the specific cases already provided for, or when the format of the data to be reported cannot be determined. Example: 'Number of employees', 'Nominal amount of hedging instrument'.	X.XX
Pure	This data type is used for a numeric element, such as a ratio, in which the values are not denominated in a specific unit. Example: 'Level of price index'.	X.XX
Date	This data type is used when the element refers to a date. Example: 'Date of authorisation for issue of financial statements'.	yyyy-mm-dd
Text	This data type is used when the element refers to a narrative disclosure. Example: 'Depreciation method, property, plant and equipment'. It is also used when the IFRS Taxonomy has not provided an additional structure to specific disclosures, and values are expected to be provided in a free text format. Example: 'Country of incorporation', 'Description of line item in statement of financial position that includes hedging instrument'.	Text
Text block	This data type is used when the element refers to a specific group of disclosures. Text blocks normally incorporate multiple business facts disclosed together, for some or all of which individual taxonomy elements might exist. A text block can allow formatting to be preserved for multiple paragraphs (via HTML), whereas the text type does not have this option. Example: All IAS 40 <i>Investment Property</i> disclosures that an entity needs to provide have a text block item named 'Disclosure of investment property'.	text block

87. Taxonomy line items also have a period attribute. The period attribute describes whether the value tagged by the element must be reported for a period of time (a duration) or at a particular point in time (an instant).

Example—period attribute of Taxonomy line items

Element	Period attribute
Disposals, property, plant and equipment	Duration
Property, plant and equipment	Instant

Section 4 - Using the IFRS Taxonomy structure to find the correct element

Introduction

88. This section, describes how a preparer can use the Taxonomy hierarchical structure to navigate its content and find the correct element.
89. The Taxonomy’s hierarchical structure within the context of this guide is used to refer to the following components:
- (a) the Taxonomy presentation which is used to display the Taxonomy content (see paragraphs 90 to 112);
 - (b) the Taxonomy tables which illustrate how line items could be used together with members to tag IFRS disclosures (see paragraphs 113 to 127); and
 - (c) the Taxonomy calculations and formulae (see paragraphs 128 to 131).

Taxonomy presentation

Overview

90. The primary aim of the Taxonomy presentation is to help a preparer to navigate its content and easily find the correct element. Ease of navigation is mainly achieved within the Taxonomy by:
- (a) organising the Taxonomy elements in distinct groups (‘presentation groups’);
 - (b) displaying those groups in a logical layout (‘presentation view’); and
 - (c) the use of specific display features (abstract elements and child-parent relationships).
91. Presentation groups arrange and display Taxonomy elements by the Standard(s) to which they relate. Each presentation group has a unique identifier and label. For example, elements relating to the disclosure requirements of IAS 12 *Income Taxes* are located within the presentation group labelled ‘Notes—Income taxes’ and with the identifier [835110]. Presentation groups also exist for the ‘general application’ axes— see paragraphs 123 to 125 for further detail.
92. The same Taxonomy element may appear in more than one presentation group and may have different labels. For example, the element with the standard label ‘Property, plant and equipment’ can appear in the following presentation groups:
- (a) [210000] Statement of financial position, current/non-current;
 - (b) [220000] Statement of financial position, order of liquidity;
where the standard label is used in each case, and it also appears in:
 - (c) [800100] Notes—Subclassifications of assets, liabilities and equities
where the total label is used (Total property, plant and equipment).
93. For the full IFRS Taxonomy, the Taxonomy presentation groups are organised into two separate Taxonomy presentation views. These are:

Presentation view	Description
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Full IFRS Taxonomy organised by IFRS Standards	The presentation groups follow the sequential order of the Standards as they appear in the Bound Volume (IFRS 1 ..., IAS 1 ..., IFRIC 1 and so on)
Full IFRS Taxonomy organised by financial statements	The presentation groups displayed first are those relating to IAS 1 <i>Presentation of Financial Statements</i> and IAS 7 <i>Statement of Cash Flows</i> and they are followed by the presentation groups relating to other IFRS Standards

94. The same Taxonomy elements and presentation groups are available in both presentation views. The only difference is the order in which the presentation groups are displayed. Two versions of *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* for full IFRS Standards exist, displaying respectively the two Taxonomy presentation views.
95. In the presentation view for the IFRS Taxonomy for SMEs, presentation groups are organised by financial statements only. No second presentation view exists.
96. Presentation views contain headings (abstract elements) which provide further assistance in navigating the taxonomy both visually and by providing terms which may be helpful in text searches. In *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated*, for example, the display of equity within the presentation group [210000] Statement of financial position, current/non-current, begins as follows:

Equity and liabilities [abstract]		
Equity [abstract]		
Issued capital	X instant, credit	IAS 1.78 e Example
Retained earnings	X instant, credit	IAS 1.78 e Example, IAS 1.IG6 Example

Figure 7 Extract from presentation group [210000] Statement of financial position, current/non-current

The first two elements are clearly marked as [abstract] and are headings preceding a list of elements.

97. Abstract elements cannot be used for tagging IFRS disclosures. They can be used by a preparer to represent the presentation headings of its financial statements within an extension taxonomy if permitted or required to do so by a filing system owner.
98. Presentation views also include child-parent relationships that present a possible display hierarchy of elements. Where appropriate, the IFRS Taxonomy follows a rule whereby an element that is the total ('the parent') of a list of elements ('the children') is shown in the presentation group as the last item, beneath the list of children as is the case for the element 'Total equity' in the example below:

Equity and liabilities [abstract]		
Equity [abstract]		
Issued capital	X instant, credit	IAS 1.78 e Example
Retained earnings	X instant, credit	IAS 1.78 e Example, IAS 1.IG6 Example
Share premium	X instant, credit	IAS 1.78 e Example
Treasury shares	(X) instant, debit	IAS 1.78 e Example, IAS 32.34 Disclosure
Other equity interest	X instant, credit	IAS 1.78 e Example
Other reserves	X instant, credit	IAS 1.78 e Example
Total equity attributable to owners of parent	X instant, credit	IAS 1.54 f Disclosure
Non-controlling interests	X instant, credit	IAS 1.54 q Disclosure, IFRS 10.22 Disclosure, IFRS 12.12 f Disclosure
Total equity	X instant, credit	IAS 1.55 Disclosure, IAS 1.78 e Disclosure, IFRS 1.24 a Disclosure, IFRS 1.32 a (i) Disclosure, IFRS 13.93 a Disclosure, IFRS 13.93 b Disclosure, IFRS 13.93 e Disclosure

Figure 8 Example of a display of child-parent relationship in the Taxonomy

99. The child-parent relationships are intended to assist preparers to locate the correct tags. They should not be interpreted as an instruction or guidance as to which totals or subtotals an entity should present in its financial statements.

Consider the Taxonomy content in its entirety when tagging

100. The absence of an element in a particular presentation group does not necessarily mean that the element is not available within the Taxonomy. It is quite possible that a reported item could appear in a different location in an entity's financial statements compared to its actual location in the Taxonomy presentation.

101. For example, when tagging the components of income taxes by geographical area, a preparer familiar with the Standards might search first within the Taxonomy presentation groups capturing the presentation and disclosure requirements of IAS 12 *Income Taxes*. However, a disclosure by geographical area is not explicitly required by this Standard and therefore the relevant elements are not displayed in that presentation group. The preparer would need to search to see whether the elements are available elsewhere in the Taxonomy. In this case, an axis for disclosure by geographical analysis is available. This could be used to tag the components of income taxes by geographical areas, providing a filing system owner permits a preparer to create an extension table.

Taxonomy presentation groups for the primary financial statements

102. A Standard usually has only one main presentation group. For example, a single presentation group '[824180] Notes—Agriculture' exists within the Taxonomy to depict the presentation and disclosure requirements of IAS 41 *Agriculture*.

103. The main exceptions are IAS 1 *Presentation of Financial Statements* and IAS 7 *Statement of Cash Flows* for which multiple presentation groups exist within the Taxonomy. These are:

- (a) Presentation groups relating to IAS 1 *Presentation of Financial Statements*:
 - i. [110000] General information about financial statements;
 - ii. [210000] Statement of financial position, current/non-current;
 - iii. [220000] Statement of financial position, order of liquidity;
 - iv. [310000] Statement of comprehensive income, profit or loss, by function of expense;
 - v. [320000] Statement of comprehensive income, profit or loss, by nature of expense;
 - vi. [410000] Statement of comprehensive income, OCI components presented net of tax;
 - vii. [420000] Statement of comprehensive income, OCI components presented before tax;
 - viii. [610000] Statement of changes in equity.
- (b) Presentation groups relating to IAS 7 *Statement of Cash Flows*:
 - i. [510000] Statement of cash flows, direct method;
 - ii. [520000] Statement of cash flows, indirect method; and

104. Where a Standard does not specify whether an entity is required to present elements as separate line items in the primary financial statements, the elements are only placed within presentation groups applicable to that particular Standard. For example, IFRS 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* does not specify that the disclosures relating to 'Revenue from contracts with customers' and 'Contract assets' must be presented respectively within the statement of comprehensive income and the statement of financial position. The corresponding Taxonomy elements for these disclosures can therefore be found only within the presentation group [831150] Notes—Revenue from contracts with customers.

105. Common practice elements (see paragraph 22 for a definition) that were found to be commonly presented by entities on the primary financial statements are normally included within the following Taxonomy presentation groups:

- (a) [800100] Notes—Subclassifications of assets, liabilities and equities;
- (b) [800200] Notes—Analysis of income and expense;
- (c) [800300] Notes—Statement of cash flows, additional disclosures; and
- (d) [800400] Notes—Statement of changes in equity, additional disclosures

106. It is important to emphasise that the sole purpose of the Taxonomy presentation is intended to assist preparers to locate the correct tags. In particular, Taxonomy presentation should not be interpreted as an instruction or guidance as to how an entity should present their primary financial statements. In fact, as there are a number of different ways in which entities may present their financial statements, it is very unlikely that the Taxonomy presentation will exactly match that provided by any particular entity.

107. It is therefore important that a preparer considers the Taxonomy content in its entirety when tagging their primary financial statements. A preparer may choose to first review the presentation groups referred to in paragraphs 103 and 105 to find an element to tag a disclosure presented on its primary financial statements. However, a preparer should not assume that an element does not exist within the Taxonomy when a suitable

element cannot be found within these presentation groups. A preparer should search the remaining of the Taxonomy content and could use for instance the element standard labels and element references to the IFRS Standards to conduct this search.

Taxonomy presentation and the accounting meaning of an element

108. The Taxonomy presentation and embedded child-parent presentation relationships can support preparers in their understanding of the accounting meaning of a Taxonomy element as it provides additional context to an element.
109. In the following cases, for example, the locations of the elements within the Taxonomy and the presentation context provided by the abstract elements should enable a preparer to appreciate the difference in accounting meaning of similarly labelled elements:

Element label	Location within the IFRS Taxonomy presentation view
Adjustments for finance costs	Presentation group 'Statement of cash flows, indirect method' Abstract heading 'Adjustments to reconcile Profit (loss)'
Finance costs	Presentation group 'Statement of comprehensive income, profit or loss, by nature of expense' Presentation group 'Statement of comprehensive income, profit or loss, by function' Abstract heading 'Profit (loss)'

110. However, the primary aim of Taxonomy embedded presentation child-parent relationships is to support navigation and easy location of an element. They do not hold strict accounting meaning. The accounting meaning is best understood by reviewing the element references to the Standards and the element documentation labels as described in section 3 of this guide. In fact, as there are a number of different ways in which entities may disaggregate information, it is unlikely that the Taxonomy relationships will exactly match that provided by any particular entity.

Location of elements specific to particular activities

111. The Taxonomy does not have industry-specific presentation views. In general, elements specific to a particular area of activity are embedded in appropriate locations throughout the Taxonomy. For example, the common practice element 'Revenue from sale of alcohol and alcoholic drinks' was added to the presentation group '[800200] Notes—Analysis of income and expense' as this disclosure was found to be commonly presented by entities in the Profit and Loss account. The common practice element 'Owned Aircraft' was added to the presentation group 'Notes—Property, plant and equipment' as this disclosure represents a commonly reported class of Property, plant and equipment.
112. Taxonomy presentation groups that are specific to particular activities exist when a corresponding Standard exists. Agriculture is one such case in that many of the elements relating to that particular activity are grouped in a single presentation group [824180] Notes—Agriculture. This is because there is a Standard, IAS 41 *Agriculture*, specifically related to agriculture.

Taxonomy tables

Overview

113. Section 2 introduced the concepts of line items, members and axes and also stated that axes and members need to be used in conjunction with a line item to tag IFRS disclosures. Such combinations are referred to as 'tables' within XBRL, and they need to be specified within an XBRL taxonomy before they can be used for tagging information. The Taxonomy includes a number of tables to illustrate a logical combination of IFRS disclosures.
114. For example, IAS 16 *Property, Plant and Equipment* describes the disclosures that the financial statements shall include for each class of property, plant and equipment. This Standard also provides some examples of classes of property, plant and equipment. The line items, axes and axis members for this logical combination

of disclosures are combined in a Taxonomy table labelled ‘Disclosure of detailed information about property, plant and equipment’.

Example—Taxonomy table for property, plant and equipment

Disclosure of detailed information about property, plant and equipment [table]	Table
Classes of property, plant and equipment [axis] Power generating assets [member] ...	Axis Member
Carrying amount, accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment and gross carrying amount [axis] Accumulated impairment [member] ...	Axis Member
Disclosure of detailed information about property, plant and equipment [line items] Disposals, property, plant and equipment	Line items

115. An axis can appear in different Taxonomy tables but does not necessarily have exactly the same members in each table. For example, the axis ‘Carrying amount, accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment and gross carrying amount’ appears in the tables for both ‘Disclosure of detailed information about property, plant and equipment’ and ‘Disclosure of reconciliation of changes in goodwill’. However, the axis (‘Carrying amount, accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment and gross carrying amount’) has fewer members in the latter table (‘Disclosure of reconciliation of changes in goodwill’) than in the former table (‘Disclosure of detailed information about property, plant and equipment’) to reflect that the Standards do not permit amortisation of goodwill.

Taxonomy tables and tabular display formats

116. Taxonomy tables do not prescribe or guide how IFRS disclosures should be presented within a human. In particular:
- (a) the layout of a group of disclosures in a table in a report does not need to exactly match the layout of the table as illustrated in the IFRS Taxonomy for the tags to be applicable;
 - (b) the use of the Taxonomy tables does not imply that entities need to present this grouping of disclosures in a table within their report unless this is specifically required by the Standards; and
 - (c) Taxonomy tables can be used to tag disclosures that are not physically presented in a table within a report.
117. Please note that a filing system owner may constrain the use of axes and tables. For example, it is possible that only line items are permitted for the tagging disclosures presented within the primary financial statements.

Taxonomy tables are not exhaustive

118. The tables illustrated within the Taxonomy are largely based on the relationships described by the Standards.
119. Common reporting practice is also considered. In particular, whenever a new common practice axis is added to the Taxonomy, this axis is usually placed within a new table or an existing table is amended to include this new axis.
120. However, Taxonomy tables are not exhaustive. They do not necessarily reflect all the logical combinations that are reported by entities in practice. If permitted by the filing system owner, a preparer may add any existing Taxonomy axis (or Taxonomy member) to any new (or existing) table so long as the use of the axis or member is consistent with its accounting meaning as described within the Taxonomy.
121. With inventories, for example, some entities report a value for the accumulated impairment applicable to current inventories. This disclosure is not required by the Standards. As such, the Taxonomy does not include a specific table that combines the member ‘Accumulated impairment’ (which is a member belonging to the axis ‘Carrying amount, accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment and gross carrying

amount') with the existing line item 'Current inventories'. When permitted to do so by a filing system owner, a preparer can create an extension taxonomy in which they define such a table.

122. Similarly, the 'Geographical areas' axis, which appears in Taxonomy tables in both presentation groups [831150] Notes—Revenue from contracts with customers and [871100] Notes—Operating segments, may be used for disclosures relating to other accounting items, such as financial assets, components of income taxes or banking deposits.

Taxonomy axes not included within specific Taxonomy tables

123. There are some Taxonomy axes that are likely be applicable to all (or the large majority) of disclosures reported within a set of IFRS financial statements. Any line item from any part of the Taxonomy can be used in conjunction with these general application axes as required. Such axes are defined within the Taxonomy as for 'general application' and are usually not included within specific Taxonomy tables. They are shown in separate presentation groups and are displayed at the end of *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated*.
124. General application axes that exist within the Taxonomy are:
- (a) [901000] Axis—Retrospective application and retrospective restatement;
 - (b) [901100] Axis—Departure from requirement of IFRS;
 - (c) [901500] Axis—Creation date;
 - (d) [903000] Axis—Continuing and discontinued operations;
 - (e) [904000] Axis—Assets and liabilities classified as held for sale; and
 - (f) [913000] Axis—Consolidated and separate financial statements
125. Please note that the display of 'general application' axes may vary in your tagging software. It is also possible that a regulatory extension taxonomy links these general application axes through the use of new tables and/or additions to existing Taxonomy tables
126. There are a few other exceptions where the Taxonomy contains axes or members that are shown outside tables. For example:
- (a) Insurance contracts: due to the limited applicability of the Amendments to IFRS 4 and to keep all the related elements together, all applicable elements are shown in the Notes—Insurance contracts presentation group. The result is that the member '*Reserve of overlay approach*' is not placed in a table. If a preparer needs to use the '*Reserve of overlay approach*' member tag, they would probably move it to the Statement of changes in the equity presentation group.
 - (b) Statement of changes in equity: in the Note—Statement of changes in equity presentation group, there is a series of members representing Miscellaneous components of equity. A preparer would need to move any of the members that require tagging to the Statement of changes in equity presentation group.

Prohibition of invalid combinations

127. A Taxonomy table may include combinations of members and line elements which are technically possible but logically not valid. The rules for invalid combinations do not form part of the Taxonomy structure, but by consulting the source(s) detailed in the element references, a preparer should be able to determine if a particular combination is valid.

Taxonomy calculations and formulae

128. The IFRS Taxonomy includes basic 'aggregations' that describe how lower level elements (the 'children') are combined arithmetically by addition and/or subtraction to derive the upper elements (the 'parent'). These aggregations apply to both line items and members and are respectively available within the Taxonomy calculation and formula files. The Taxonomy presentation relationships replicate these aggregations.
129. As is the case for the Taxonomy presentation relationships, the Taxonomy aggregations are provided for illustrative and navigational purposes only. They do not represent any guidance that an entity must follow when aggregating or disaggregating information. They also do not hold strict accounting meaning.
130. In addition to aggregation relationships of members, the Taxonomy XBRL formula files include other expressions to help a preparer to understand the IFRS Taxonomy content. In particular, there are formulae:

- (a) to indicate the correct signage of a Taxonomy element in a structured electronic filing (this is discussed in more detail from paragraph 132); and
- (b) to indicate an equivalent accounting meaning between a line item and a member (for a definition of a Taxonomy equivalent item, please see paragraph 61).

131. The Taxonomy formula files also demonstrate how the XBRL formula specification could be used to validate the tagging of IFRS financial statements. Validation using XBRL formulae may or may not be required by a filing system owner.

Section 5 - Correct use of IFRS Taxonomy elements—negative values

Overview

132. The presentation of a negative (or positive) value for a disclosure within a human-readable document ('the report') might not always align with how this tagged value has to be conveyed in the structured filing. This section explains how the standard label of an element and, where available, its balance attribute can tell a preparer whether a tagged value should be reported as a positive or negative in the structured filing.

What is the balance attribute of an element?

133. The balance attribute of an element reflects what can be regarded as its 'normal' accounting balance—ie the debit or credit of an accounting concept:

Debit balance attribute	Assets (or decrease in liabilities/equity)	Expense	Cash inflows
Credit balance attribute	Liabilities (or decrease in assets)	Income	Cash outflows

134. Preparers using *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* and xIFRS can find the balance attribute displayed in the second column of these documents:

Revenue	X duration, credit
Interest revenue calculated using effective interest method	X duration, credit
Cost of sales	(X) duration, debit

Figure 9 Extract from *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* showing the credit or debit balance attribute of line items

135. The balance attribute is only assigned to line items that have a monetary attribute (see paragraph 86 for a definition of a monetary attribute). However not all monetary line items within the Taxonomy have a balance attribute.

Elements that have an assigned balance attribute

136. The balance attribute and the standard label of an element indicate whether the value of an element must be reported with a positive or negative sign in the structured filing. For example, an entity's expense item, like 'Cost of goods sold', might be presented with a value of 1000 and a minus sign (or in brackets) in the report to highlight to readers that this disclosure is deducted from revenue to arrive at gross profit. However, when tagging using the Taxonomy element 'Cost of sales', the value must be conveyed as a positive (ie 1000) as its standard label describes it as an expense item and it also has a debit balance attribute denoting its accounting balance as an expense.

137. The way the standard labels and balance attributes of monetary line elements are defined within the Taxonomy generally results in the values of elements being reported as a positive in the structured filing. However, this is not always the case, especially when:

- (a) the reported values of an IFRS disclosure could be a positive or a negative, such as a profit (or loss), cash inflows (or outflows) or a net amount combining an expense and income item (see paragraphs 138 to 140); or
- (b) a line item is used with members in a way that the combination reverses the natural accounting balance of that line item (see paragraph 141).

138. The standard label of an element that depicts an IFRS disclosure that can have a positive or negative value, normally includes wording between brackets indicating the use of a negative sign:

Example—positive and negative signs

Element standard label	Balance attribute	Label and value displayed in the report	Sign of value in the structured filing
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	Credit	Additions to PPE 1500	1500
Proceeds from sales of property, plant and equipment	Debit	Disposals PPE (500)	500
Net cash flows from (used in) investing activities	Debit	Cash flows investing 1000	Minus 1000

139. In some cases, the element standard label does not include relevant wording to indicate when a negative value has to be used in a structured filing for an IFRS disclosure that can be a positive or negative. The balance attribute can then be used. For example, within the Taxonomy there is a monetary line item with the standard label ‘Adjustments for current tax of prior periods’, which is one of the components of the breakdown of the total tax expense (income) for the year. This element could have a positive or negative value. But as the balance attribute is set as ‘debit’, an adjustment that increases the current tax to be charged for the financial reporting period needs to be reported as a positive in the structured filing. An adjustment that decreases the current tax to be charged for the financial reporting period needs to be reported as a negative in the structured filing.

140. Please note that if a Taxonomy element’s accounting meaning is consistent with the IFRS disclosure to be tagged in all respects other than its label and sign being displayed within the report, then that Taxonomy element can be used. For example, the Taxonomy element ‘Retained earnings’ can be used even if the line item label disclosed in an entity’s statement of financial position is actually ‘Accumulated losses’. Please also see paragraph 69 where the concept of negated label was discussed.

141. Taxonomy members do not have a balance attribute as they cannot be used on their own but must be combined with line items to tag IFRS disclosures. It is therefore important to consider the specific member a line item has been used in conjunction with to understand whether the value to be reported in the structured filing should be positive or negative. It is possible, although rare, that a combination reverses the natural accounting balance of a line item, as illustrated in the example below:

Example—use of positive and negative values for a line item when combined with members

The Taxonomy line item with the standard label ‘Property, plant and equipment’ has a debit balance attribute indicating that it is an assets and normally should be expressed as a positive value in the structured filing. When this line item is used in conjunction with the member ‘Accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment’, a negative sign should be used as this value represents a decrease in assets. This is not the case when combined with the member ‘Gross carrying amount’. For example, an entity might report this information as in the second column of data in the following table, but in the structured filing it would need to be presented as in the third column:

Element standard label of member used	Value displayed in the report	Value reported in the structured filing
Gross carrying amount [member]	2000	2000
Accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment [member]	800	Minus 800

Elements without an assigned balance attribute

142. Taxonomy line items that are 'Per share', 'Shares', 'Percentage', 'Decimal' or 'Pure' (see paragraph 86 of this guide for definitions) do not have a balance attribute assigned to them. In addition, there are also monetary line items within the Taxonomy that do not have a balance attribute. These monetary line items mainly represent³:
- (a) IFRS disclosures that do not have a natural accounting balance of debit or credit. For example, 'maximum exposure to credit risks of financial assets'; and
 - (b) IFRS disclosures relating to a reconciliation of a change in assets or liabilities that:
 - i. can also be presented within the Statement of profit or loss (or notes to the profit or loss) but with the opposite debit/credit impact; and
 - ii. do not require the use of a balance attribute to intuitively understand what sign should be reported in a structured filing.
143. For example: 'Depreciation of property, plant and equipment' can be presented within the Statement of profit or loss (with a normal accounting balance of debit as it is an expense) and within the reconciliation of changes in Property, plant and equipment (with a normal accounting balance attribute of credit as it is a decrease in assets). The Taxonomy has a monetary line item with the standard label of 'Depreciation, property, plant and equipment'. No balance attribute has been allocated to this element.
144. The standard labels of elements without an assigned balance attribute should be used to understand the sign to be reported in the structured filing. The standard labels are defined within the Taxonomy in such a way that it usually implies that the value has to be reported with a positive sign, as is the case for 'Depreciation, property, plant and equipment' in the example above.
145. The main exception is for elements representing IFRS disclosures for which the expected reported value can be a positive or negative. In this case, the wording between brackets within the standard label indicates when a negative value has to be reported. An example is the earning per share line item with the standard label 'Basic earnings (loss) per share from discontinued operations'.

Section 6 - Reporting of specific values using the IFRS Taxonomy

Overview

146. This section explains how a preparer can use the Taxonomy content to report specific values:
- (a) How can I report range values? (see paragraphs 147 to 148);
 - (b) How can I report time bands? (see paragraphs 149 to 152);
 - (c) How can I report current and non-current values? (see paragraphs 153 to 155);
 - (d) How can I report a cross-reference to another part of the annual report (see paragraph 156); and
 - (e) How can I report the location of a disclosure within the primary financial statements? (see paragraphs 157 to 158).

How can I report range values?

147. The Taxonomy contains a 'Range' axis which can be used to report a range values in a structured filing. The 'Range' axis has the following members:
- (a) Ranges. This is the default member, to be used when no range value is reported;
 - (b) Bottom of range;
 - (c) Top of range; and
 - (d) Weighted average.

³ There are also a few Taxonomy line items that do not have a balance attribute because of specific constraints relating to the use of the XBRL calculation specifications. An example is the line item 'Cash flows from (used in) operating activities'. These specific constraints are not further explained within this guide.

148. For example, the Range axis is used in the Taxonomy table ‘Detailed information about borrowings’. This table also includes a line item with the standard label ‘Borrowings, interest rate’. To report an interest rate with a reported range value of ‘2% to 5%’, a preparer can use the range axis:

Example—use of the range axis for ‘Borrowings, interest rate’

Element standard label of line item	Element standard label of member	Value reported in the filing
Borrowing, interest rate	Bottom of range	2
Borrowings, interest rate	Top of range	5

How can I report time bands?

149. The Taxonomy includes a number of members covering particular time bands, such as ‘On demand’ or ‘Later than five years’.

150. The time band members are included within either the ‘Maturity’ axis or the ‘Past due status’ axis. The specific time band members available for these axes within a Taxonomy table reflect the disclosure requirements of the Standard to which the table relates and may be different across tables.

Example—reporting of time bands

Paragraphs 60 and 61 of IAS 1 *Presentation of Financial Statements* state that:

60	An entity shall present current and non-current assets, and current and non-current liabilities, as separate classifications in its statement of financial position in accordance with paragraphs 66–76 except when a presentation based on liquidity provides information that is reliable and more relevant. When that exception applies, an entity shall present all assets and liabilities in order of liquidity.
61	Whichever method of presentation is adopted, an entity shall disclose the amount expected to be recovered or settled after more than twelve months for each asset and liability line item that combines amounts expected to be recovered or settled: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) no more than twelve months after the reporting period, and (b) more than twelve months after the reporting period.

This explains why, in the Taxonomy, this disclosure requirement is modelled with only two of the available time members, as follows:

Disclosure of amounts to be recovered or settled after twelve months for classes of assets and liabilities that contain amounts to be recovered or settled both no more and more than twelve months after reporting date [table]		axis
Maturity [axis]		
Not later than one year [member]	member	IAS 1.61 a Disclosure, Expiry date 2019-01-01 IAS 17.31 b (i) Disclosure, Expiry date 2019-01-01 IAS 17.35 a (i) Disclosure, Expiry date 2019-01-01 IAS 17.47 a (i) Disclosure, Expiry date 2019-01-01 IAS 17.56 a (i) Disclosure, Effective 2019-01-01 IFRS 16.94 Disclosure, Effective 2019-01-01 IFRS 16.97 Disclosure, IFRS 7.B11 Example, Effective 2019-01-01 IFRS 7.IG31A Example
Later than one year [member]	member	IAS 1.61 b Disclosure, Expiry date 2018-01-01 IFRS 7.37 a Example, Expiry date 2018-01-01 IFRS 7.IG28 d Example

151. The Taxonomy also includes time bands not specifically mentioned within the Standards but were found to be commonly reported in practice. These have been added as common practice elements. They are located within the Taxonomy, outside a specific table, in [880000] ‘Notes—Additional information,’ presentation group.

152. A preparer can add any time band member, wherever it appears in the Taxonomy, to the ‘Maturity’ axis or to the ‘Past due status’ axis within an existing Taxonomy table or, if permitted by the filing system owner, in a new table within an extension taxonomy.

How can I report current and non-current values?

153. IAS1 *Presentation of Financial Statements* requires that an entity shall disclose current and non-current assets, and current and non-current liabilities as separate classifications in its statement of financial position except when a presentation based on liquidity provides information that is reliable and more relevant.
154. Current and non-current values can be tagged using Taxonomy using line items, such as ‘Current trade receivables’, ‘Non-current trade receivables’ and ‘Trade receivables’. No specific Taxonomy axis exists to depict current and non-current values (with one exception explained in paragraph 155 below).

Example—tagging of current receivable and current receivables later than one year

The items below could be extracts from an entity’s financial statements:

Statement of Financial Position :	
Trade receivables	500
Other current assets	300
Current assets	800
Notes to the Statement of Financial Position	
Amounts due after twelve months included within current assets:	
Trade receivables	25

The reported value of ‘500’ has to be tagged using the line item ‘Current trade receivables’. The value of ‘25’ has to be tagged using the line item ‘Current trade receivables’ in conjunction with the time band member ‘Later than one year’ belonging to the ‘Maturity’ axis. Please note that if all the current assets or all the current liabilities are due within one year then it is not necessary to use the ‘Maturity’ axis at all.

155. The only exception to this concerns the disclosures relating to biological assets. The Taxonomy has a table to reflect the disclosure of a reconciliation of changes in the carrying amount of biological assets. Entities, when providing this reconciliation, commonly break down biological assets into current assets and non-current assets. Current and non-current members have been added to this table to reflect this practice:

Biological assets [axis]	axis
Biological assets [member]	member[default]
Current biological assets [member]	member
Non-current biological assets [member]	member

Figure 10 Extract from *The IFRS Taxonomy Illustrated* showing the members for the ‘Biological assets’ axis

How can I report a cross-reference to another part of the annual report?

156. This may be done by using one of a number of text elements within the Taxonomy. For example, paragraph 52 of IFRS 16 *Leases*, states that:

A lessee shall disclose information about its leases for which it is a lessee in a single note or separate section in its financial statements. However, a lessee need not duplicate information that is already presented elsewhere in the financial statements, provided that the information is incorporated by cross-reference in the single note or separate section about leases.

The Taxonomy’s presentation group [832610] Notes—Leases (IFRS 16) contains the following element to enable a preparer to meet that requirement:

Description of cross-reference to disclosures about leases	text	Effective 2019-01-01 IFRS 16.52 Disclosure
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How can I report the location of information within the financial statements?

157. There are some cases where the Standards requires the disclosure of information concerning the location of certain items within the primary financial statements. For example, paragraph 47 of IFRS 16 *Leases*, states :

A lessee shall either present in the statement of financial position, or disclose in the notes:	
(a)	right-of-use assets separately from other assets. If a lessee does not present right-of-use assets separately in the statement of financial position, the lessee shall:
(i)	include right-of-use assets within the same line item as that within which the corresponding underlying assets would be presented if they were owned; and
(ii)	disclose which line items in the statement of financial position include those right-of-use assets.

The Taxonomy's presentation group [832610] Notes—Leases (IFRS 16) contains the following element to enable a preparer to meet the last-mentioned requirement:

Description of line items in statement of financial position which include right-of-use assets	text	Effective 2019-01-01 IFRS 16.47 a (ii) Disclosure
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158. The use of a 'text' attribute permits a preparer to report values that include a reference to the relevant Taxonomy element(s) or to relevant extension elements where these are permitted by a filing system owner.

Section 7 - Use of the IFRS Taxonomy by a filing system owner

Overview

159. The Taxonomy a filing system owner uses may not necessarily be the same as the Taxonomy 'as issued' by the Board and described within this guide. A filing system owner can extend or customise the Taxonomy content and might not always use the latest released version of the Taxonomy. Filing system owners usually also provide the filing rules a preparer needs to adhere to when tagging and submitting their electronic IFRS financial statements.
160. The way a filing system owners uses and implements the Taxonomy may affect some of the general guidance set out in this document. This section highlights the key areas where these effects could exist.

The taxonomy in use by a filing system owner

Taxonomy version

161. Filing system owners incorporate Taxonomy updates within their filing system with varying frequency. The taxonomy used in a particular filing system might not be the latest Taxonomy version available from the website of the IFRS Foundation. It is therefore possible that content described within this guide is not yet available within the taxonomy in use by a filing system owner.

Taxonomy extensions

162. The Taxonomy does not cover all the supplementary disclosures that are specific to filing systems or that apply to particular regions, jurisdictions and/or regulatory systems. A filing system owner may extend the Taxonomy by adding elements to cover additional reporting areas.
163. This guide does not include any guidance on extensions a filing system owner has made to the Taxonomy.

Taxonomy customisation

164. A customisation occurs when a filing system owner does not add elements to the Taxonomy but makes other content additions to adapt the Taxonomy for local use.
165. Taxonomy customisation can affect the guidance in this document, in particular:
- (a) not all Taxonomy content that describes the accounting meaning of an element may be available or that content may have been replaced by alternative or new supporting content; and
 - (b) the Taxonomy presentation views, tables and calculations may not be (fully) available or may have been replaced by alternatives or new presentation views , tables and calculations.

Filing rules used by a filing system owner

166. A filing system owner usually provides the filing rules a preparer has to follow when tagging and submitting their electronic IFRS financial statements, such as:
- (a) whether there are any restrictions on Taxonomy elements that can be used by preparers—eg if only a subset of the elements may be valid for use when tagging a statement;
 - (b) whether the tagging scope includes notes to the primary financial statements or alternatively applies only to the primary financial statements;
 - (c) whether a preparer is permitted to extend or customise the taxonomy used by a regulator;
 - (d) whether a preparer has to adhere to particular tagging principles; or
 - (e) whether validation is required and how data will be validated.
167. Filing rules can have an impact on the guidance provided in this document, in particular relating to Taxonomy extensions and customisations made by a preparer. IFRS financial statements are principle-based and, as a result, may contain a number of disclosures specific to a preparer and not commonly found in the financial statements of other entities ('entity-specific disclosures'). The Taxonomy does not aim to cover entity-specific disclosures. For that reason, it is possible for a preparer to extend or customise the Taxonomy if the filing system owner permits it. An extension allows a preparer to add new elements to tag entity-specific disclosures. A customisation allows a preparer to reflect entity-specific facts and circumstances without adding new elements—for example, to reflect their labels of IFRS disclosures or to provide a calculation to reflect a reconciliation or aggregation.
168. The guidance provided in this document has been qualified if application of such guidance is subject to filing rules set by a filing system owner—eg in paragraph 67, which discusses the possibilities of adding entity-specific labels for elements.