



# Implications of new resolution of the 19th International Conference of labour Statisticians on the measurement of labour migration

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# International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS)

- The main instrument for formulating policy guidance in labour statistics.
- Participants include experts from governments, mostly appointed from ministries responsible for labour and national statistical offices, as well as from employers` and workers` organizations.
- Each ICLS is invited to make recommendations on selected topics of labour statistics in the form of resolutions and guidelines.
  - Objective of resolutions:
    - **Primary** - guide countries to establish/update their labour statistical systems
    - **Secondary** - promote international data comparability
- Meets every five years since 1923. 19<sup>th</sup> ICLS on 2013.
- Review and update of 13<sup>th</sup> ICLS resolution concerning statistics of the economically active population, employment, unemployment and underemployment

# 19<sup>th</sup> ICLS - Main changes in the international recommendations

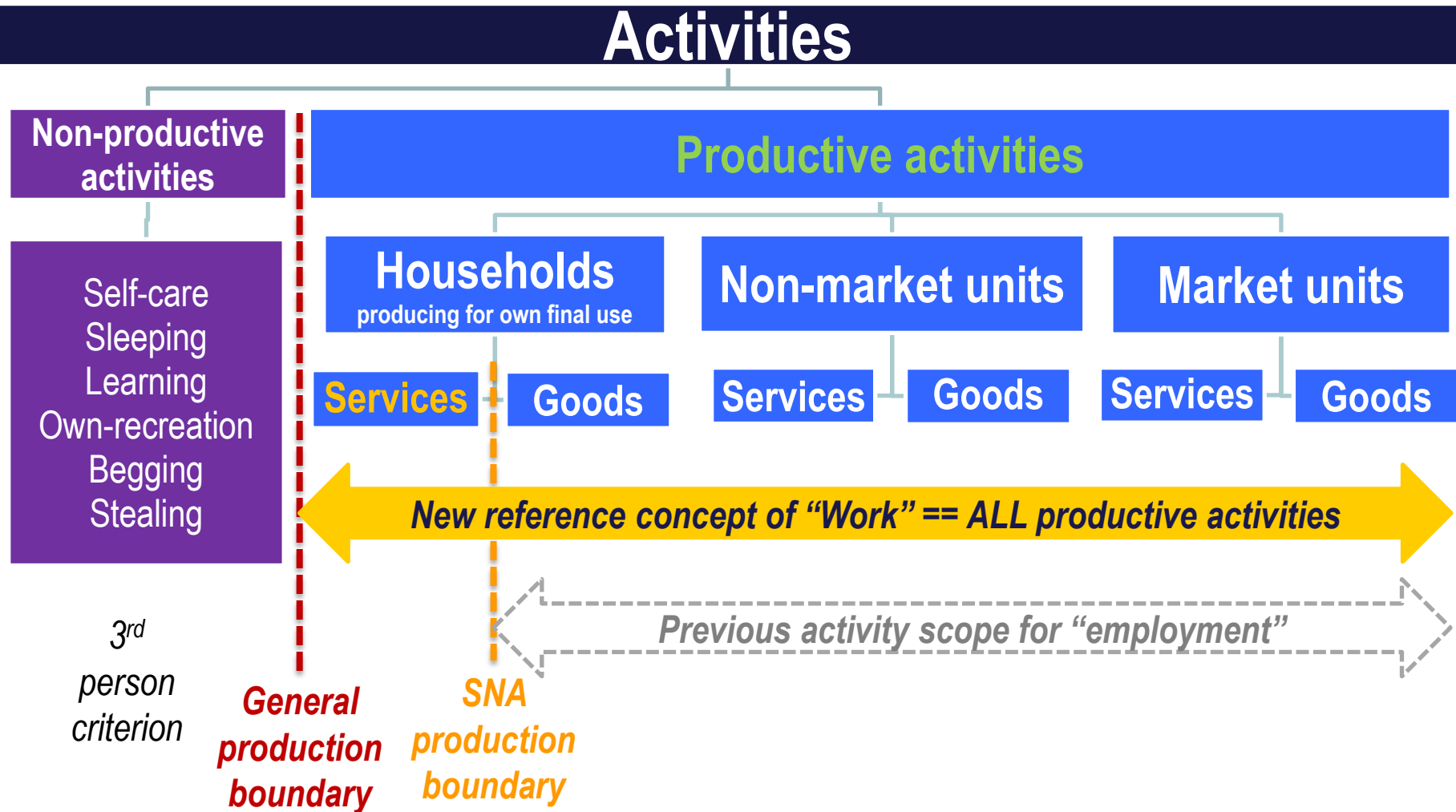
- New reference concept of Work & Forms of Work framework
- Employment definition refined (as work for pay or profit)
- Forms of work other than employment identified for separate measurement
- Labour force framework (also current activity framework)
  - Terms currently active/inactive are no longer recommended
  - Terminology retained: Labour force & Outside the labour force
  - Principles to classify population by labour force status retained (but based on refined concept of employment)
- Usual activity framework
  - Removed due to data quality issues
  - Alternative recommendations to assess employment in long observation period
- New measures of labour underutilization introduced
- New indicator of subsistence foodstuff producers highlighted

“Any activity performed  
by persons of any sex and age  
to produce goods or provide services  
for use by others or for own use”

*Para 6, Resol I. (19<sup>th</sup> ICLS, 2013)*

***Concept for reference purposes  
Not for direct measurement !  
Recognizes all productive activities as work  
But WORK ≠ Employment***

# Economic production and Work

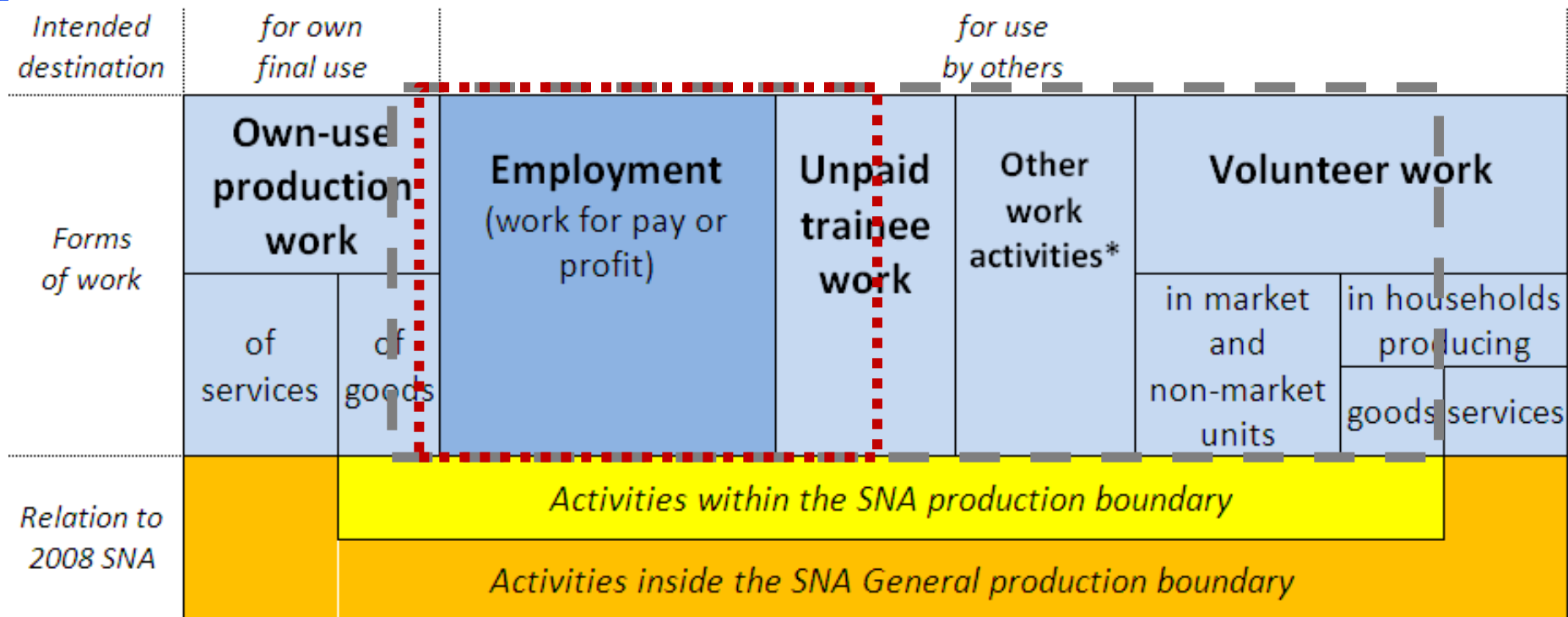


# Forms of work (IV): Concepts

- **Own-use production work**
  - Activities to produce goods & services for own final use (by households)
- **Employment work**
  - Activities to produce goods & services [for others in exchange] for pay or profit
- **Unpaid trainee work**
  - Activities to produce goods & services for others performed without pay in order to acquire workplace experience or skills
- **Volunteer work**
  - Non-compulsory activities performed without pay to produce goods and services for others
- **Other work activities**
  - E.g. Compulsory activities performed without pay to produce goods & services for others



# Correspondence with previous standards and with national practice



\*i.e. compulsory work performed without pay for others.

-  Previous scope of “economic activity” used to define the employed
-  In general countries use narrower scope to identify the employed

# Usefulness of new framework

## 1. Multiple activities of Persons



## 2. Household allocation of labour, contribution to livelihoods

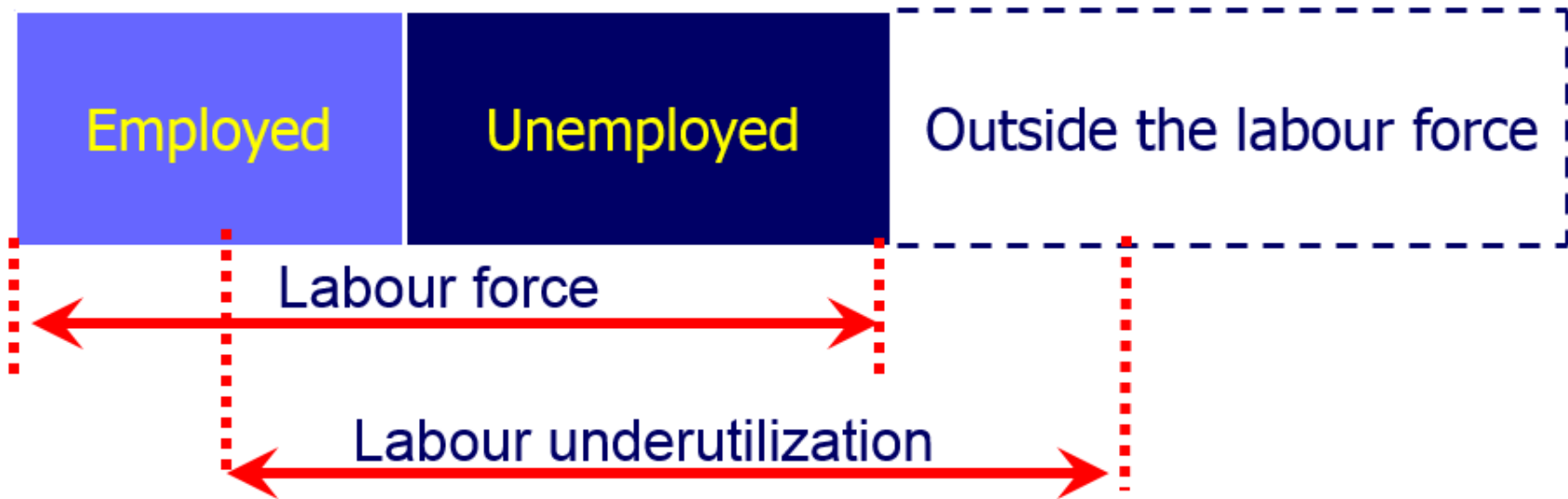


## 3. Assessment of labour market participation & integration by persons in forms of work other than employment



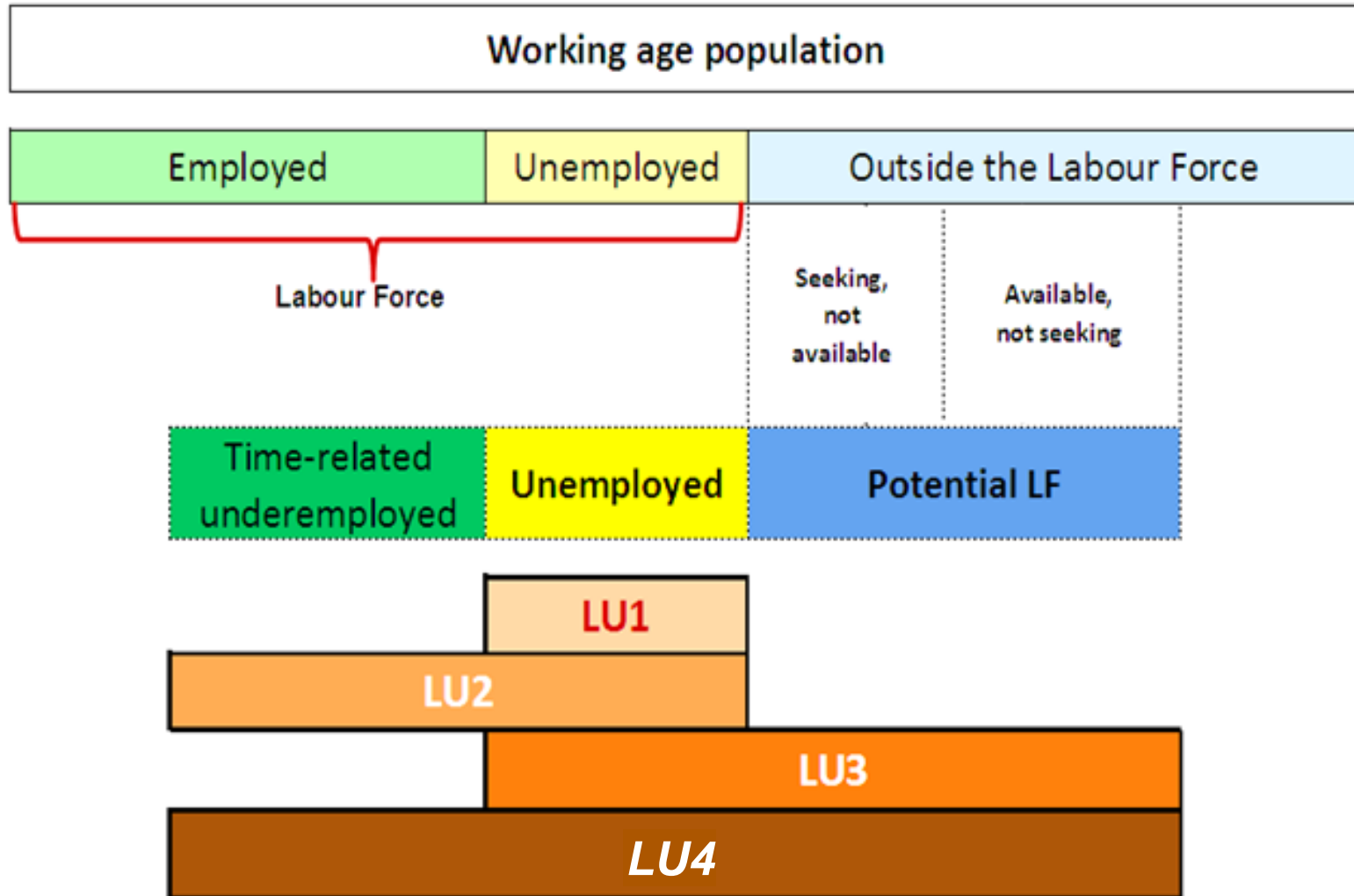
## Labour force & Labour underutilization

# Labour force & labour underutilization



- **LF** “Refers to the current supply of labour for the production of goods and services *in exchange for pay or profit*”
- **LU** “Refers to mismatches between labour supply and demand, which translate into an unmet need for employment among the population”

# LU1-LU4: Composite measures of labour underutilization



# Indicators of labour underutilization (1)

**Four indicators:** to assess the nature of LU throughout the business cycle:

- **LU1:** Unemployment rate:

$$\left[ \frac{\text{persons in unemployment}}{\text{labour force}} \right] \times 100$$

*Note: extended LF =  
LF + potential labour force*

- **LU2:** Combined rate of time-related underemployment and unemployment:

$$\left[ \frac{\text{persons in time-related underemployment} + \text{persons in unemployment}}{\text{labour force}} \right] \times 100$$

- **LU3:** Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force: 3

$$\left[ \frac{\text{persons in unemployment} + \text{potential labour force}}{\text{extended labour force}} \right] \times 100$$

- **LU4:** Composite measure of labour underutilization:

$$\left[ \frac{\text{persons in time-related underemployment} + \text{persons in unemployment} + \text{potential labour force}}{\text{extended labour force}} \right] \times 100$$

# Population coverage

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- In general, statistics of work should cover the resident population comprising all persons who are usual residents of the country, regardless of sex, national origin, citizenship or geographic location of their place of work. This includes usual residents who work outside the country (e.g. cross-border workers, seasonal workers, other short-term migrant workers, volunteer workers, nomads).*

*Para 60, Resol I. (19<sup>th</sup> ICLS, 2013)*

- In countries with a significant in-flow of short-term or temporary migrant workers, employment statistics should be supplemented to the extent possible with information about the employment characteristics of non-usual residents working in the national territory, so as to permit analysis of their situation and impact on the labour market.*

*Para 61, Resol I. (19<sup>th</sup> ICLS, 2013)*

# Reference populations as per objectives

## Components

- A: Usual residents employed in territory
- B: Usual residents employed in RoW
- C: Usual residents unemployed in territory
- D: Usual residents unemployed in RoW
- E: Non-residents employed in territory

## Populations

Resident labour force: **A + B + C + D**

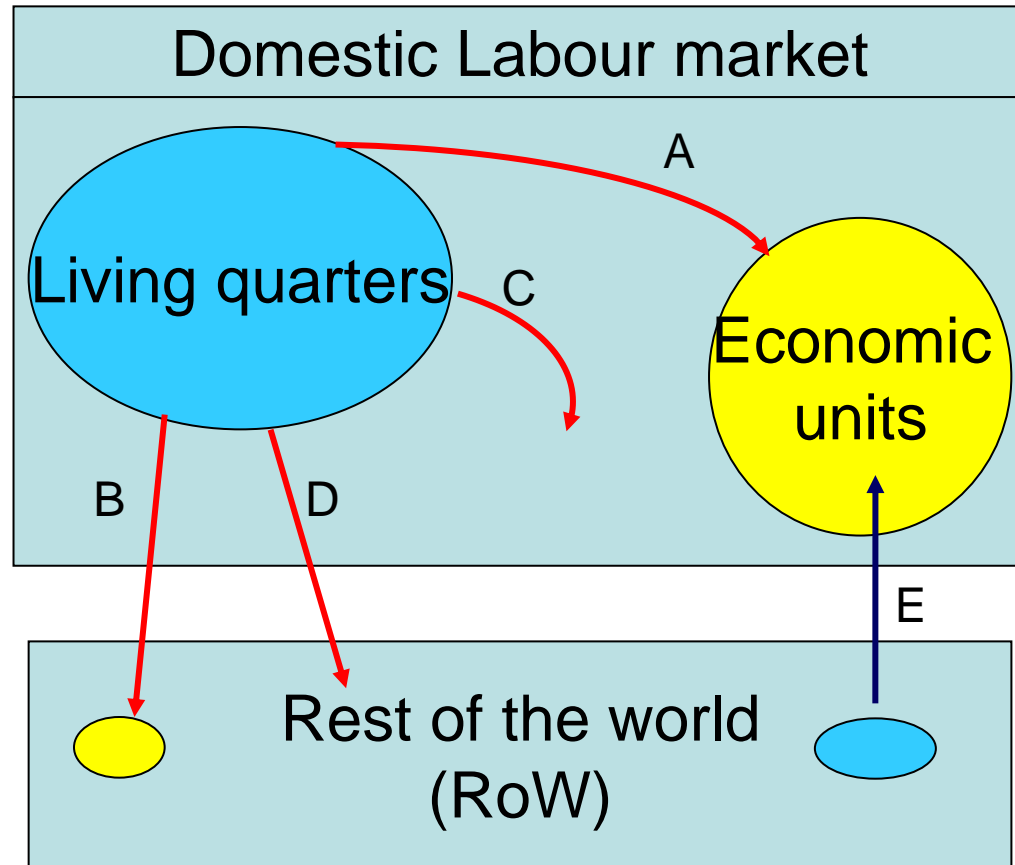
Domestic employment/work: **A + E**

Short-term intl. labour migrants: **B, D, E**

National accounts:

**GDP: A + E**

**GNI : (A + B) - E**





# Age limits

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- In principle, all the work activities of the population in all age groups to be covered depending on the policy and needs.
- To determine the **working-age population**:
  - (a) the lower age limit should be set taking into consideration the minimum age for employment and exceptions specified in national laws or regulations, or the age of completion of compulsory schooling;
  - (b) no upper age limit should be set, so as to permit comprehensive coverage of work activities of the adult population and to examine transitions between employment and retirement.
- The lower age limit may be adjusted for CLS programme

**Thank you!**

***For further information:***

**[www.ilo.org/stat](http://www.ilo.org/stat)**