



STATISTICS

Overview of the Main Changes to the 2008 SNA

MARCH 6-7, 2024

IMF Statistics Department – UNECE

Joint Virtual Outreach Seminar on the Updates of the Statistical Manuals (BPM7 and SNA 2025)

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AGENDA



Recommendations
for Conceptual
Changes



Recommendations
for Additional
Tables / Data Items

Overview of proposed changes

TABLE 2 Update of the 2008 SNA -- Recommendations that impact on the measurement of important national accounts aggregates and/or require the compilation of additional statistics

		Conceptual change					Additional data item/table				Clarification Guidance			
		Impact on GDP	Impact on NDP	Impact on GG NLB	Impact on net worth	Other	Breakdown	Economic table	Supplementary item/ table	Extended table/account	Thematic table/account			
A. Generic issues														
A.4	IE.1 Statistical framework for the informal economy													
B. Further specifications of statistical units and revisions in institutional sectoring														
B.1	WS.2 Distributions of household income, consumption and wealth													
B.1	G.2 Treatment of MNE and intra-MNE flows													
B.1	G.4 Treatment of Special Purpose Entities and residency													
B.1	F.7 Impact of Fintech on macroeconomic statistics													
B.2	X.18 Statistical units													
B.3	G.4 Treatment of Special Purpose Entities and residency													
C. Further specifications of the scope of transactions including the production boundary														
C.1	DZ.9 Incorporating digital intermediary platforms into the SNA													
C.3	A1.2 Treatment of rent													
C.3	X.55 Further alignment of the sum-of costs approach													
C.4	X.3 Treatment of the output of central banks													
C.6	F.15 Debt Concessionality													
C.7	F.2 Asymmetric treatment of reinvested earnings													
C.7	D.17 Identifying superdividends and establishing the borderline between dividends and withdrawal of equity in the context of direct investment													
C.8	A1.2 Treatment of Rent for the "Recording of Data", "Marketing Assets" and "Biological Resources"													
C.9	F.12 Covering hybrid insurance and pension products													
D. Extensions and further specifications of the concepts of non-financial assets, capital formation and consumption of fixed capital/depletion, including changes related to other transactions in goods and services														
D.1	DZ.6 Recording of data in the national accounts													
D.1	G.9 Payments for "knowledge-based capital" (marketing assets)													
D.2	F.18 The recording of crypto assets in macroeconomic statistics													
D.4	WS.6 Economic ownership and depletion of natural resources													
D.4	WS.11 Treatment of renewable energy resources as assets													
D.5	WS.8 Accounting for biological resources													
D.10	DZ.7 Improving the visibility of artificial Intelligence in the national accounts													
D.10	WS.12 Environmental classifications													
E. Further refinement of the treatment and definition of financial corporations, financial instruments and financial assets														
E.1	F.1 More disaggregated institutional sector and financial instruments breakdowns													
E.2	F.18 The recording of crypto assets in macroeconomic statistics													
E.3	F.8 Valuation of debt securities at both market and nominal value													
E.5	B.12 Treatment equity in international organizations that is in the form of unlisted shares or nonnegotiable equity													
E.6	X.16: Accounting for pensions: supplementary table on household retirement resources													
E.7	F.4 Financial derivatives by type													
E.8	X.59 Clarification note on treatment of securities (and gold bullion) under reverse transactions													
E.9	WS.9 Recording of provisions													
E.10	WS.12 Environmental classifications													
G. Broadening the framework of national accounts to capture wellbeing and sustainability														
G	WS.3 Unpaid household service work													
G	WS.4 Labour, education and human capital													
G	WS.5 Indicators of health care in the SNA													
H. Other issues														
H.3	DZ.4 Recording and valuing "free" products in an SNA satellite account													
H.3	DZ.5 Increasing the visibility of digitalisation in economic statistics through the development of digital supply-use tables													

Overview of proposed changes

TABLE 3 Update of the 2008 SNA – Other recommendations for clarification or additional guidance

		Clarification	Guidance	No change
A. Generic issues				
A.1	CM.4 Use of net measures in the presentation of the National Accounts			
A.2	A1.1 Valuation principles and methodologies			
A.2	X.24 Refocusing 2008 SNA Chapter 20 (Chapter 17 in the 2025 SNA) on capital services and the national accounts			
A.3	IF.1 Islamic finance in the National Accounts and External Sector Statistics – new chapter			
A.4	X.32 Establishing clearer links to ICLS resolutions – informal economy			
A.5	X.53 Include text on significant differences between the SNA and IPSAS/IAS			
B. Further specifications of statistical units and revisions in institutional sectoring				
B.1	G.7 Global value chains and trade in value-added			
B.3	B.3 Centralised Currency Unions			
B.3	X.4 The delineation of head offices and holding companies in the national accounts			
B.3	X.39 Output of off-shore banks			
B.3	X.54 Draft an issues note on when, and when not, to consider trusts and other types of funds as separate institutional units			
C. Further specifications of the scope of transactions including the production boundary				
C.1	DZ.8 Cloud computing			
C.2	G.7 Global value chains and trade in value-added			
C.2	C.6 Merchanting and factoryless producers; clarifying negative exports in merchanting, and merchanting of services			
C.4	F.14 Treatment of factoring transactions			
C.4	X.10 FISIM			
C.5	X.44 Recording of deferred or waived rental payments			
C.5	X.45 Recording of deferred delivery of, and payments for, goods and services			
C.5	X.46 Recording of deferred interest payments			
C.6	IF.1 Islamic finance in the National Accounts and External Sector Statistics – measurement of interest			
C.6	X.6 The statistical treatment of negative interest			
C.7	D.16 Treatment of retained earnings			
C.10	X.5 Recording of flows between a defined benefit pension fund and its sponsor			
C.10	X.8 Definition of catastrophes in the measurement of non-life insurance			
C.10	X.12 Accounting for pensions: treatment of holding gains and losses			
C.10	X.35 Improve consistency in the use of terminology for insurance			
C.10	X.41 Recording of refunded premiums at surrender of insurance policies			
C.11	C.7 Treatment of travel packages, health-related travel, and taxes and fees on passengers' tickets			
C.11	C.8 Recording penalties and fines			
D. Extensions and further specifications of the concepts of non-financial assets, capital formation and consumption of fixed capital/depletion, including changes related to other transactions in goods and services				
D.3	DZ.10 Non-fungible tokens (NFTs)			
D.4	WS.10 Valuation of mineral and energy resources			
D.6	WS.7 Treatment of emission trading schemes			
D.7	G.5 Economic ownership of intellectual property products – recording of intra-MNE transactions			
D.7	X.9 Recording of work in progress			
D.8	X.52 Include text on partitioning of assets			
D.8	X.56 Add clarification on the treatment of costs of ownership transfers for different types of assets			
D.8	X.57 Add clarification on the distinction between maintenance and capital repairs for intangible assets			
D.8	X.58 Issues note on a possible alternative treatment of the transfer of leased assets at the end of the lease period			
D.9	CM.4 Use of Net measures in the presentation of the National Accounts – use of geometric depreciation			
D.9	X.7 Service lives of military systems			
D.9	X.9 Capital services of assets not contributing to production			
D.11	G.1 Valuation of imports and exports of goods			

TABLE 3 Update of the 2008 SNA – Other recommendations for clarification or additional guidance

		Clarification	Guidance	No change
E. Further refinement of the treatment and definition of financial corporations, financial instruments and financial assets				
E.4	F.9 Valuation of loans (fair value)			
E.5	F.16 Subscription Rights			
E.6	X.14 Accounting for pensions: recognition of pension entitlements relating to social security schemes			
E.7	F.5 Treatment of credit default swaps			
E.7	F.10 Treatment of cash collateral			
E.8	F.3 Reverse transactions			
E.8	F.10 Treatment of cash collateral			
E.8	D.18 Cash pooling in direct investment			
E.8	X.37 Recording of central bank swap arrangements			
E.9	X.14 Accounting for pensions: recognition of pension entitlements – contingent liabilities			
F. Further specifications of the scope of transactions concerning government and public sector				
F.1	WS.7 Treatment of emission trading schemes			
F.2	X.11 The recording of stability fees			
F.3	WS.14 Distinction between tax and service transaction and other borderline cases			
F.4	D.8 Public-private partnerships			
F.5	D.5 Eliminating the imputations for an entity owned or controlled by general government that is used for fiscal purposes			
F.6	B.8 Recording citizenship by investment programs			
F.6	B.9 Treatment of external assets and related income declared under tax amnesty			
F.6	X.43 Government support to businesses and households			
G. Broadening the framework of national accounts to capture wellbeing and sustainability				
G	WS.1 A Broader SNA framework for wellbeing and sustainability			
G	X.32 Establishing clearer links to ICLS resolutions – labour accounts			
H. Other issues				
H.1	DZ.1 Price and volume measurement of goods and services affected by digitalisation			
H.1	X.10 FISIM – price and volume measurement			
H.1	X.21 Adding text on productivity measurement to 2025 SNA Chapter 18			
H.1	X.22 Adding a section, in the 2025 SNA Chapter 18, on the volume and price measurement of specific products			
H.1	X.47 Estimating the volume of non-market output			
H.2	X.49 Accounting under conditions of high inflation			
H.3	DZ.3 Treatment of "free" products in the "core" national accounts			
H.4	G.7 Global value chains and trade in value-added			
H.5	CM.2 Terminology and branding of the Economic Accounting statistical standards			
H.6	CM.3 A Taxonomy for communicating Economic Statistics, releases, products and product updates			
H.7	CM.1 An Assessment Framework to measure alignment with the Economic Accounting statistical standards			

General Observations

Only a limited number of conceptual changes affecting macro-economic indicators, such as GDP/NDP, government deficit, and net worth

- Recognition of **data** as produced assets
- ~~Recognition of **marketing assets** as produced assets~~ NOT AGREED AT 2024 UNSC
- Renewable energy resources and adjustments in the **treatment of biological resources**
- Recording **depletion** of natural resources **as a cost of production**
- **Split-asset approach** for natural resources (no impact on macro-economic indicators mentioned above)
- Improving consistency in the application of the **sum-of-costs method**
- Changes in the measurement of the **output of central banks**
- Other **minor changes** to the 2008 SNA (no impact on macro-economic indicators)



Data, data, data, ...

- 2008 SNA: **Recognized databases as produced assets, but not the information content**
- 2025 SNA: **Also recognizes the information content of electronic data** collected and used in production
- **Valuation using the sum-of-costs method:**
 - costs of planning, preparing and developing a data production strategy
 - costs associated with accessing, recording and storing information embedded in OPs, including explicit purchases of OPs and already produced data
 - costs associated with designing, organizing, testing and analyzing the data in order to draw information and conclusions from it
 - consumption of the fixed capital used, including return to capital
- **Change may have significant impact on GDP and net worth**

Marketing Assets

- 2008 SNA: **Marketing assets (and goodwill) only recognized as non-produced non-financial assets**, the measurement of which is limited to explicit purchases of the relevant assets (or implicit purchases when a corporation is purchased at a price higher than its net worth)
- 2025 SNA: It was proposed to **recognize marketing assets as produced assets**, thus significantly extending the asset (and production) boundary with assets produced for own final use
- However, this **recommendation was not agreed** to by the 2024 UNSC because of conceptual and practical concerns, so the 2008 SNA treatment will be retained in the sequence of economic accounts
- The topic will remain on the **research agenda**; however, countries with significant marketing assets will be encouraged to compile **extended accounts** with marketing assets treated as produced assets
- **Valuation using the sum-of-costs method:**
 - Further research in delineating, in practice, expenditures leading to the build-up of (fixed) capital from current expenditures

Renewable Energy Resources and Adjustments in the Treatment of Biological Resources

- Explicit recognition of **renewable energy resources** (solar, wind, geo-thermal, etc.)
- **Three changes and clarifications** to the 2008 SNA:
 - 2008 SNA included a **discrete choice** between cultivated and non-cultivated resources yielding once-only products, based on management and control; 2025 SNA includes a **differentiation between migrating resources (non-cultivated) and non-migrating resources (cultivated, based on continuum from intensely managed to totally undisturbed)**
 - **Regeneration** of biological resources to be recorded as **gross fixed capital formation**, while – similarly to mineral and energy resources – **depletion is treated as a cost of production** (see next slide)
 - Clarifications for the **measurement of work-in-progress**
- Minor impact on GDP, no impact on net worth (only shifts between non-produced and produced assets, and between work-in-progress and underlying assets)

Recording Depletion of Natural Resources as a Cost of Production

- 2008 SNA: **Depletion** of natural resources treated as **other changes in the volume of assets**
- 2025 SNA: **Depletion** to be recorded as a **cost of production**, similar with the recording of consumption of fixed capital
- Change will have an impact on NDP, especially in natural resource-rich countries

Split-Asset Approach for Natural Resources

- 2008 SNA: **Natural resources** to be recorded **in the accounts of the legal owner** (typically government)
- 2025 SNA:
 - **Natural resources** to be recorded **in the accounts of the legal owner and extractor, according to the appropriation of the resource rents**
 - **Accounting for depletion in line with SEEA Central Framework 2012** (i.e., allocation of depletion in line with appropriation, by adjusting the rents paid by the extractor to the legal owner)
 - **Changes in ownership** to be recorded **as other changes in the volume of assets**
- No change to GDP/NDP and net worth; only change in the allocation of the relevant assets across sectors

Improving consistency of the sum-of-costs method (1)

- In the absence of market prices, application of **sum-of-costs method**, as an approximation of such market prices
- For **market producers** (output for own final use):
 - Intermediate consumption
 - Compensation of employees
 - Consumption of fixed capital
 - Net return to fixed capital
 - Other taxes (less subsidies) on production
- **Four issues in relation to the 2008 SNA**
 - For **non-market producers**, relevant output is valued **excluding return to fixed capital**
 - **Return to capital is excluded for non-financial assets other than fixed assets**
 - Inclusion or exclusion of **payments for rent** on, for example, land and natural resources
 - Inclusion or exclusion of **depletion**, in addition to consumption of fixed capital

Improving consistency of the sum-of-costs method (2)

2025 SNA:

- **All relevant output valued including a return to capital**, thus also for non-market producers
- Inclusion of **return to non-financial assets other than fixed assets**, thus including inventories and non-produced non-financial assets
 - Note: Return to city parks and historical monuments to be excluded on pragmatic grounds
- **Inclusion of rent** as a cost element
- **Inclusion, if relevant, depletion** of natural resources
- Change may have a significant impact on GDP, and a more moderate impact on net worth

Changes in the Measurement of the Output of Central Banks

2008 SNA:

- Possibility of **FISIM** included
- **Two types of services:**
 - Monetary policy services (non-market output)
 - Supervisory services (non-market or market, depending on fees paid for these services)
- **Non-market output allocated to government**, with a concomitant current transfer

2025 SNA:

- **FISIM excluded** on conceptual grounds
- **Further extension of services**, to include promoting financial stability and monitoring the payments system
- **All output considered as non-market output, with payments by financial corporations considered as current transfers**
- **Output recorded as output for own final use** by the central bank

Change in GDP = change in recording of transfers

Other Minor Conceptual Changes to the 2008 SNA

- Treatment of **dividends for FDI-enterprises**: can now be paid out of previous periods 'operating profits
- **Extension of the definition of rent** (i.e., payments to the owner for putting certain non-produced assets at the disposal of another unit), by including non-produced non-financial assets other than natural resources
- Recording of **work-in-progress** for fixed assets partially transferred and for fixed assets produced for own final use
- Limitation of **concessional loans** to those provided by employers to employees
- All **equity in international organizations** to be considered as “other equity”
- **Securities provided as collateral**, which are not readily available for meeting balance of payments financing needs, to be excluded from the cash borrower’s reserve assets; for gold swaps, this reclassification leads to a demonetization of the gold bullion

General Observations

- A distinction can be made between the following tables and data items:
 - **Sequence of economic accounts:** standard set of accounts and tables, the compilation of which is recommended
 - **Supplementary tables/items**
 - **Extended/thematic accounts/tables**
- The **SNA does not have the power of law**, but one of the main factors for the success of the SNA is the worldwide compilation of statistics according to its conceptual guidance
- The objective is that **as many countries as possible compile the sequence of economic accounts**
- Encouraged tables and accounts more dependent on national and regional priorities



Accounting for Well-being

- To arrive at an improved analysis of the **distribution of income, consumption, saving and wealth across households**:
 - Standard breakdown of households by **income and wealth decile**
 - More detailed **labour accounts**
- In addition, various **other breakdowns of households** (e.g., household composition, main source of income) are put forward as supplementary items
- Extended/thematic accounts and tables:
 - **Unpaid household service work**
 - **Education and human capital**
 - **Health**

Accounting for Sustainability

- To arrive at an improved accounting of (environmental) sustainability, **SEEA Central Framework 2012 and SEEA Ecosystem Accounting** are important frameworks which can be viewed upon as systematic frameworks complementary to and consistent with the SNA
- Within the SNA sequence of economic accounts, in addition to recording depletion as a cost of production:
 - **Natural capital as a separate category**, including both produced and non-produced non-financial assets
 - **More detailed breakdowns of non-financial assets and financial assets**
 - **Focus on improving the estimation of natural resources**

Accounting for Globalization

- To arrive at a better understanding of the impact of globalization on the generation and distribution of income, and also to arrive at an improved international comparison of fiscal balances, **standard breakdowns of corporations into:**
 - **Foreign-controlled corporations**
 - **Public corporations**
 - **National private corporations**
 - **Of which: Part of domestic MNEs**
- In addition, various supplementary items and tables are encouraged:
 - **Extended supply and use tables (eSUTs)**
 - Data on **Special Purpose Entities (SPEs)** for those countries where these entities are important

Accounting for Digitalization

- To improve the visibility of the digital economy:
 - **More detailed breakdowns of certain asset categories** within intellectual property products, in the sequence of economic accounts
 - In addition, **digital supply and use tables** are encouraged as extended/thematic tables, also including **extended accounting for “free” services** (Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, etc.)
 - Further breakdowns of subsectors of financial corporations of **Fintech-related activities**, as supplementary items in countries where these activities are significant

Accounting for Financial Risks and Vulnerabilities

- Since the Great Financial Crisis, it is considered important to arrive at an improved accounting for financial risks and vulnerabilities:
 - **Non-bank financial intermediation** (shadow banking): supplementary tables with more detailed breakdowns of financial corporations, as well as additional details for certain financial instruments
 - Breakdowns of **financial derivatives**
 - **From-whom-to-whom** (supplementary) **tables** (not included in the consolidated list)

Other supplementary Items and Tables

- **Concessional loans:** supplementary data on concessional loans provided by government and international organizations
- **Reinvested earnings:**
 - **Breakdown of FDI-related dividends** into payments as defined for non-FDI corporations and other payments
 - Supplementary data on **recording reinvested earnings for all equity in corporations**, direct investment as well as portfolio investment
- **Valuation of debt securities** at both market value and nominal value for liability positions
- Supplementary table on **provisions**, broken down into three categories: financial assets related, non-financial assets related, and provisions unrelated to assets

Next steps

- At its 55th Session, held on 27 February - 1 March 2024, the United Nations Statistical Commission **endorsed the Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts on the recommendations for the update of the 2008 SNA** with the exception of the capitalisation of marketing assets
- In the meantime, drafting of the 2025 SNA continues
 - The initial focus of this work has been **on new and substantially revised** chapters
 - These chapters are subject to **global consultation on a chapter-by-chapter basis**
- In May-July 2024 the **complete draft** of the 2025 SNA will be circulated for global consultation
 - The chapters that are not new or substantially revised will be shown in ‘track changes’
- There is also a significant program of work that is developing **guidance materials to support the implementation** of the 2025 SNA
- The **2025 SNA will be submitted to the 2025 UNSC meeting** for its endorsement, along with a **strategy for implementing** the 2025 SNA

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!