

# Tools for developing national implementation programmes for the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics

Seminar on developing the capacity to produce economic statistics, including national accounts in accordance with the 2008 SNA, in the Asian and Pacific region 10-13 October 2011, Bangkok, Thailand

Herman Smith UNSD/DESA

#### **Outline of presentation**

- Introduction
- Implementation website
- National accounts handbooks
- Knowledge base for economic statistics and macro economic standards
- Regional implementation programme
- Strategic planning framework
- Statistical System Information
- Diagnostic framework for national accounts and economic statistics
- Framework for setting goals and actions



# Implementation website

# **SNA** implementation website

- To facilitate sharing of information UNSD developed a website with information supporting the implementation of the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics
- Website at: http://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/ default.asp

# **SNA** implementation website

- Themes addressed in this website are:
  - Knowledge base on statistical standards and guidance material (already operational)
  - Knowledge base on training material (still under construction)
  - Progress with the implementation process, which include
    - · Statistical system information
    - · Results of the diagnostic tool
    - The vision documents
    - Progress reports











#### National accounts handbooks

#### **Handbooks**

- OECD handbooks on Measuring capital and intellectual property products.
- World Bank handbooks on Introduction to SNA and SNA compilation guidance
- Eurostat's Essential SNA: Building the basics
- UNSD national accounts handbook on Financial production stocks and flows, in collaboration with the ECB
- UNSD handbooks on International guidelines on industrial and trade statistics



**Knowledge Base on Economic Statistics and Macroeconomic Standards** 



#### **Objective**

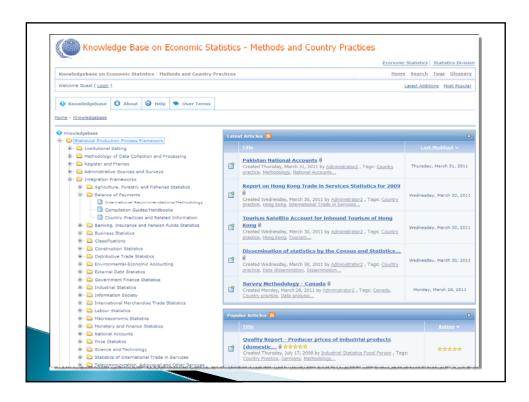
- Provide a centralized repository of information on all aspects of methodology and best country practices for the collection, analysis and dissemination of all areas of economic statistics and macroeconomic standards
- Facilitate the international sharing and exchange of knowledge on economic statistics programmes as well as the provision of guidance to countries

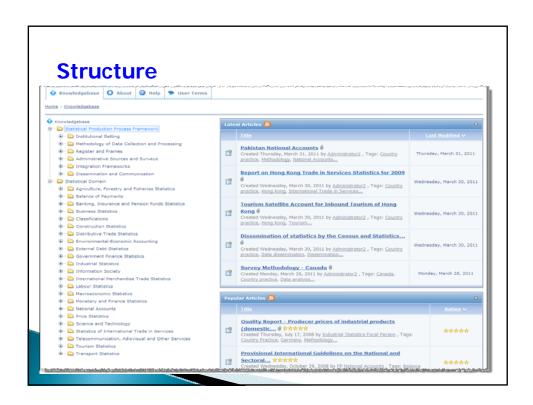
# Objective - cont.

- Serve as a single web-based access point by combining information made available by various sources and by optimizing the collection, organization, and display of all stored information
- Rationalize and streamline information finding
- Main target: Statistical community in developing countries

#### Content

- Contain 23 different statistical domains
- Includes more than 286 documents
- Best practices available for more than 32 countries
- Countries are invited to actively participate by adding relevant documents
- Documents in all languages accepted
- http://unstats.un.org/unsd/econstatkb
- sna@un.org







Regional implementation programme

#### Regional programme

- Regional programme for the improvement of economic statistics in Asia and the Pacific
- To produce a core set of economic statistics by 2020 of appropriate quality required for short and long-term economic analysis and decision making by both government and non-government agencies/organizations



Strategic planning framework

#### Strategic planning

Strategic planning is a key principle in mobilizing political and financial support for investment in statistics to connect national development objectives with a programme of work for statistical capacity-building.

For this purpose a national strategic planning framework needs to be developed

#### **Strategic Planning Framework**

Best practices are available on how to develop SPFs for the development of statistics:

National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDSs) is the most widely used tool for statistical planning in developing countries

ISWGNA favours the use of NSDS strategic planning framework

#### **Characteristics**

- Integrated into national development and poverty reduction policies;
- Takes into account national, regional, and international data needs;
- 3. Encompasses production, dissemination, analysis, and use of data and related issues;
- Covers all the main statistical production units, and serves as a framework for sectors;
- 5. Serves as coordinating framework for international and bilateral assistance;
- 6. Integrates existing activities, and draws on the past experience

# Reasons for a strategic approach

- Resources are limited, and priorities have to be made
- Piecemeal approach is not cost effective
- To ensure that all areas are covered
- To promote alignment with national policy priorities and plans

#### The timetable

- The timetable depends on a number of factors:
  - Political validation
  - What is already in place
  - Need for sufficient time for effective consultation and review
- Important to link preparation with national processes and budget timetables

#### The actors

- Who decides? The national authorities.
- Who leads the work? A central team assisted by other teams.
- Who advises? Specialists and users.
- Who provides technical and financial support?
  International and regional co-operation

# Content of the strategic framework

- Assessment and appraisal of existing outputs
- Strategic vision
- Includes institutional development, framework
- Implementation plan
  - · Cost, realistic, prioritized, timetable, flexible

# The NSDS is a comprehensive approach

- Statistical system
  - Frameworks (regulatory, codes of practice)
  - Statistical infrastructure
  - Methods
  - Coordination & prioritization mechanisms
  - Products ("national statistics")
- Statistical agencies
  - Business or corporate plans
  - Short-term work plans

#### **NSDS and SNA implementation**

- Many countries have NSDS but mostly lack an emphasis on economic statistics
- Data development requirements for national accounts should be an integral part of the NSDS
- Priorities should reflect the needs of data users
- Statement of strategy Development of an economic statistics programme for compiling the required scope and detail of the National Accounts to inform policy makers

#### Setting up a Statement of strategy

- Statistical system information
- Diagnostic tool
- Vision document
- Implementation programme



# **Statistical System Information**

# **Statistical System Information**

- A tool to assist in developing the statement of strategy
- The statistical system information can be obtained from the web
- This tool brings together information available at various international organisations into a single framework

# **Statistical System Information**

Country	Statistical agency
	<b>Legal Framework</b>
	Strategic Framework
	Relevant documents
	Projects/Programmes
	Data
	Statistical Standards
UNSD, IMF, World Bank, Eurostat, Paris21	Relevant documents
	Data





# Diagnostic framework for national accounts and supporting statistics

#### **Purpose**

- Tool to assess the adequacy of the national statistical production process to support implementation of the 2008 SNA.
- Self assessment of statistical prerequisites outlined in stages I and II of the 2008 SNA implementation programme.
- Leads to developing a vision for improving the availability and quality of the economic statistics required for compilation of national accounts.

#### **Approach**

- The tool is based on the widely used CES Classification of Statistical Activities
- The Classification provides a structured presentation of statistical activities aimed at
  - · collecting, producing and disseminating data,
  - developing standards,
  - harmonization and implementation of statistics.
  - Statistical activities are organized in five statistical domains.

#### **Approach**

- ▶ Domains 1-3 deals with the outputs of the statistical process.
  - 1 Demographic and social statistics;
  - 2 Economic statistics: and
  - 3 Environment and multi-domain statistics
- Domains 4 and 5 cover substantive issues such as process, organization and also managerial aspects of official statistics.

# **Diagnostic tool**

- Cross classify the statistical activities of domain 2 and selected activities from domain 1 and 3 with domain 4 and 5
- This allows the assessment of economic activities in terms of
  - process,
  - organization and
  - managerial aspects of official statistics

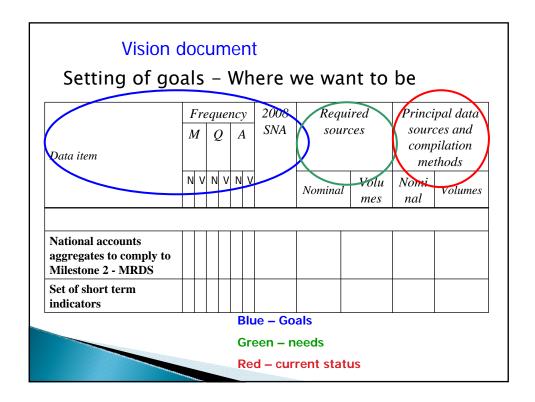


Framework for setting goals and actions to reach goals

#### Vision document

#### Setting of goals - Where we want to be

- Scope and detail of the national accounts
- Frequency of aggregates nominal and volumes
- 2008 SNA compliance
- ISIC ref 4 compliance
- Required data sources Needs
- Current data sources and compilation methods What you have



#### Action plan – How to get there

- Vision document specify the goals and needs
- Diagnostic tool reveals data gaps
- Action plan indicates the required actions with a time table to mitigate data gaps
- This action plan represents an implementation programme for strengthening the economic statistics for the compilation of the required scope and detail of the national accounts

# Thank You