

ISWGNA Meeting (Teleconference)
09 January 2019
Minutes

Participants: John Verrinder (Chair) and Nicola Massarelli (Eurostat); Peter van de Ven, Jorrit Zwijnenburg and John Mitchell (OECD); Barbro Hexeberg and Eric Métreau (World Bank); Rob Dippelsman, Thomas Alexander, Jennifer Ribarsky and Margarida Martins (IMF); and Herman Smith and Jonathan Gessendorfer (UNSD).

1. Global user consultation on the SNA research agenda

The ISWGNA discussed various options for consulting users to identify relevant issues for the SNA research agenda, such as using existing meetings organised by the ISWGNA member organizations, written consultations, series of local events and a global users conference, and agreed to prepare a proposal for consideration by the ISWGNA:MG at its meeting in March 2019.

2. Workstreams on SNA research agenda priority areas.

The ISWGNA discussed the practical arrangements for establishing three dedicated groups to develop workstreams for the priority areas globalisation, digitalisation and economic wellbeing and sustainability, each under the guidance of one or two AEG members. It is expected that the groups would include members of the research agenda task force and relevant experts from other statistical domains.

3. Development of a general template for the guidance notes

The ISWGNA agreed to a draft outline of a general template for the guidance notes to ensure that all aspects of the full sequence of accounts are addressed; in particular, clearly identify issues affecting the central system versus those that may have to go into supplementary tables or satellite accounts; assess implications for a possible SNA update and the opportunities for harmonisation with other domains; and not only look at the conceptual implications, but also address the feasibility of implementing the proposed conceptual solutions. The annotated proposal will be circulated to the AEG for comments.

4. Next ISWGNA Management Group meeting

The next physical meeting of the ISWGNA Management Group will be held in March 2019 in New York as a side event at the 2019 United Nations Statistical Commission.

5. Side event at the United Nations Statistical Commission

The ISWGNA agreed to organise a side event at the 2019 United Nations Statistical Commission to explore the relevance of the SNA to account for globalization, digitalization and wellbeing and sustainability as well as proposals for the SNA research agenda.

6. Any other business

ISWGNA members are invited to propose inputs for the next issue of the SNA N&N.

UNSD informed the ISWGNA about a request from the Environmental-Economic Accountants for the need for national accountants to participate in a SEEA working group on the valuation concepts and accounting treatments for eco-system accounts.

7. Next ISWGNA meeting

The next ISWGNA meeting (teleconference) is tentatively scheduled for end of February. Eurostat will follow up with possible dates.