IT Tools for the Compilation of Supply and Use Tables

Michael Smedes
UNSD

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Points to Consider

- What are your needs
- What type of functionality is required
- Your current IT environment, expertise and capability
- Resources available, the need for support and updates
What are your needs

- Starting point is your plan for the SUT program

- Will you be producing tables every year? Every three years? Ad hoc?

- Will the SUT be managed as a timeseries? What is your revision policy?

- Current and Constant Prices?

- Need to support ‘alternative’ view (e.g. Tourism Satellite Account)

- Etc
Once you have described the SUT program and needs you will be able to articulate the functionality required, examples:

- Metadata driven compilation
- Automatic balancing
- Database versioning
- Timeseries capability – extrapolation, interpolation, imputes etc
- Record adjustments made to source data and reasons for adjustments
Current IT environment

- Also need to consider your current IT environment functionality

- Organisation’s Database/s
  - A significant portion of SUT compilation work is data management. Need to ensure easy access, transfer and storage of data
  - Is there an existing data store with data management capability which the SUT compilation system will need to utilize?
  - Or does your SUT system also need to include data management functionality? If so how will data from source data areas be transferred and stored.

- Dissemination systems – what currently exists how to move data between systems in a way that minimizes risk and resources required
Current IT environment cont.

- Do you typically build systems in-house or do you obtain systems from outside?

- What software packages do staff in your organization already have some expertise in?
Resources Available

- What budget do you have available
- How many staff will be using the system on an ongoing basis
- What kind of training do you need to provide
- How will you manage support and updates – in-house from an IT division, or contracted from a third party
Conclusion

- Need a system that meets your needs taking into account a range of factors
  - Functionality required
  - Existing IT environment
  - Resources and capability available
  - Support available