

AI.2 Treatment of Rent in the National Accounts

Global consultation

Overview

The System of National Accounts, 2008 (2008 SNA) is being updated. This update involves considering a number of research issues, with decisions to be reflected in the updated manual. One of the issues being considered is the treatment of rent in the National Accounts.

In the 2008 SNA, rent concerns the payments and receipts for leasing (non-produced) natural resources. The main reason for treating the leasing of these assets as rent, instead of the provision of services, seems to mainly relate to the point of these assets having an infinite life, thus not subject to deterioration in the form of depreciation or consumption of fixed capital.

The drafting team in charge of this issue, has developed a guidance note discussing the subject and came up with a set of options regarding the definition of rent, the location of payments/receipts of rent in the sequence of accounts, and the treatment of rent in applying the sum-of-costs approach.

The guidance note is available [here](#).

We would appreciate your views on the proposed options by completing the following survey.

Instructions

For each question, please provide the answer by checking the relevant checkbox(es) and by typing in the framed textboxes, which will automatically expand to fit the text. A printable version of the questionnaire is available for your convenience.

If you have any questions, please contact sna@un.org.

Sincerely,
SNA Secretariat

Please provide your information below:

Country _____
Institution/Organization _____
Name* _____
Position _____
Email* _____

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Section A – Definition of rent

Q1A. Regarding the *definition of rent*, which of these options do you prefer?

A1 - Broaden the definition of rent to cover all payments/receipts related to the use of non-financial assets with infinite life span

A2 - Broaden the definition of rent to cover all payments/receipts related to the use of non-produced non-financial assets (whatever their life span)

A3 - Broaden the scope of production to also include returns on the use of non-produced non-financial assets

I don't know/Unsure

Q1B. Please explain the reasons for your response

Section B - Location of payments/receipts of rent in the sequence of accounts

Q2A. Regarding the *location of payments/receipts of rent in the sequence of accounts*, which of these options do you prefer?

B1 - Keep the current treatment (rent in the allocation of primary income account)

B2 - Include rent in the generation of income account

B3 - Include rent in the production account

I don't know/Unsure

Q2B. Please explain the reasons for your response

Section C: Treatment of rent in applying the sum-of-costs approach

Q3A. Regarding the *treatment of rent in applying the sum-of-costs approach*, which of these options do you prefer?

- C1 - Maintain the current treatment, i.e., limit the sum-of-cost approach to only include costs related to the use of produced non-financial assets
- C2 - Broaden the sum-of-cost approach to also include costs related to the use of non-produced non-financial assets
- I don't know/Unsure

Q3B. Please explain the reasons for your response

Q4. In order to maximize transparency, we would like to publish responses to global consultations. Do you give consent that your response to this questionnaire can be published?

- Yes
- No

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