Task Team on Digitalization: overview on progress of work and next steps

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Agenda item 4.1

Digitalization Task Team: research topics

Increasing the visibility of digitalization in NA (Digital SUTs)

Recording of data in the national accounts

Artificial Intelligence

Valuation of free assets and free services

Cloud computing

Price and volume measurement of goods and services affected by digitalization

Crypto assets

Digital intermediary platforms

'Old' topics | 'New' topics

Visuals: courtesy of Sri Soelistyowati, BPS – Statistics Indonesia
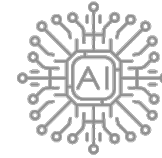
Recording of Data in NA

- Topic discussed by the AEG in October 2020 and April 2021
  - Agreement on several aspects, e.g. recognising data assets in the core accounts; valuation at sum of costs
  - Main open issue: treatment of "Observable phenomena"

- Further discussion and consultations on treatment of "observable phenomena" took place after April 2021 (more details under next agenda item)

- Current planning
  - Updated GN submitted to AEG in Autumn 2021
  - Global consultation launched in Q4 2021
  - Some tests ongoing (US, Canada, Australia, Germany), more expected in the course of 2022

Free digital products

- Two guidance notes are presented for discussion at this meeting:

    1. Guidance note recommending clarifications on the existing SNA treatment of "free" products, **with no changes to the central framework**

    2. Guidance note on recording and valuing "free" products in an SNA satellite account, **with no changes to the central framework**

- The GN on an SNA satellite account depends on the recommendations for recording and valuing data as an asset in the SNA

- Current planning

    - Global consultation launched in Q4 2021

    - Tests on Free digital products satellite account expected in the course of 2022

Crypto assets

- Topic already discussed at the October 2020 AEG meeting

- IMF and OECD have led the work so far

- Broad agreement on most issues, except for the treatment of **crypto assets without corresponding liability** acting as a store of value
  (possible options: Financial assets vs. Valuables)

- Restricted drafting team (4 persons), including members of the DZTT and FITT, to finalise the GN, for approval by both BOPCOM and ISWGNA/AEG

- Current planning:
  - ✓ Revised GN submitted to AEG in Autumn 2021
  - ✓ Global consultation launched in Q4 2021

Price and volume measurement of goods and services affected by digitalization

A comprehensive GN presented to the AEG in October 2020, giving practical guidance on price and volumes measures of **existing** and **new** goods and services

Two remaining open issues:

a) Telecommunications services
(AEG rejected the proposal to treat them like electricity)

b) One room in a home is rented out through a platform
(no agreement on the treatment yet. Proposed options were: room is excluded in the calculation of the imputed rental price vs. an adjustment is applied)

TT's proposed way forward

- Open issues are moved to other work streams [resp. to *Price statistics* and *Digital intermediary platforms*]

- This work stream is concluded for now (i.e. no global consultation or testing envisaged), pending decisions on Data and Free products

DZTT: other topics (I)

Digital Supply-and-use tables

- GN cleared by AEG and ready for global consultation
  - ✓ Focus mainly on practical aspects and testing

- Tests already ongoing in several countries, more expected to follow

Artificial intelligence

- First GN in preparation following AEG feedback on the discussion paper presented in April 2021

- Current planning
  - ✓ GN submitted to AEG in Autumn 2021
  - ✓ Global consultation in Q4 2021
  - ✓ Tests in the course of 2022

DZTT: other topics (II)

Cloud computing

- GN in preparation, expected to AEG in Autumn 2021

- Global consultation and tests in the course of 2022

Digital intermediary platforms

- Idea is to build on the Digital SUTs and the Prices and volumes work

- GN to AEG, global consultation and tests expected in the course of 2022

The AEG is asked to comment on the advancement of work of the Digitalization Task Team and agree on the proposed way forward

Members of the SNA Digitalization Task Team

The Digitalization Task Team includes Allison Derrick (BEA), Andreas Dollt (Eurostat), Kevin Fox (UNSW), Ziad Ghanem (Stats Canada), Richard Heys (ONS), Stanimira Kosekova (ECB), Nicola Massarelli (Eurostat), John Mitchell (OECD), Markie Muryawan (UNSD), Dylan Rassier (BEA), Marshall Reinsdorf, Jennifer Ribarsky (IMF), Sebastián Rébora (Central Bank of Chile), Carol Robbins (NSF), Benson Sim (UNSD), Michael Smedes (ABS), Erich Strassner (BEA), Cliodhna Taylor (ONS) and Jorrit Zwijnenburg (OECD).

Retired members who have contributed so far: Sri Soelistyowati (Statistics Indonesia) and Teck-Wong Soon (Statistics Department Singapore).

Any omissions are accidental.