Summary of global consultation on digital SUTs

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The April 2021 meeting of the Advisory Expert Group (AEG) approved the global consultation of the guidance note on increasing the visibility of digitalisation in the national accounts, via digital SUTs.

The consultation collected information on both the conceptual aspects of digital SUTs and practical aspects of their implementation.
Global consultation on digital SUTs

- Substantive replies were received from 50 contributors, comprising 48 separate countries and 1 international organisation.
- Responses were received from all regions of the world.
On a conceptual level, do you support the digital SUTs framework as a way to increase the visibility of digitalization in the national accounts?
Is the construction of digital SUTs relevant for your country?
In the next 3-5 years, do you intend to compile, or have you already compiled, experimental statistics, partially or fully consistent with the digital SUTs framework in your country?
Would your institution be interested in participating in an experimental estimate exercise?
Does your country currently undertake any alternative approach to increasing the visibility of digitalisation in the national accounts?
There appears broad support to formalise this work and place some form of it into the revised SNA.

The development of compilation guidelines and tools, the ability to compile digital SUTs will improve across all countries. This can occur concurrently with the formal inclusion into the SNA. (Already occurring with thematic seminar this week)

The digital SUTs would greatly assist in converging different methodologies into one standard comparable approach, without the accompanying controversy of what exactly the digital economy is or is not.
Questions for AEG

• Does the AEG approve that the conceptual framework included in the GN be reflected in the updated SNA?
• How does the AEG view the best way to incorporate the digital SUTs into a revised SNA?