



STATISTICS

INTER SECRETARIAT
WORKING GROUP ON
NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

Draft Annotated Outlines for Selected *2025 SNA* and *BPM7* Chapters (BOPCOM 22/17)/(SNA/M4.22/27)

Joint Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMF Committee on
Balance of Payments Statistics and Twenty-First Meeting of
the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts

October 18–20, 2022

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Outline

- Process
- Joint Chapters
 - Communicating and Disseminating Economic Statistics
 - Globalization
 - Islamic Finance
 - Digitalization

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Process

- Developed high-level outlines for SNA and BPM
 - ▶ Identified joint chapters/common content and lead editors
- Identified list of priority chapters
 - ▶ Proposed new chapters
 - ▶ Chapters requiring substantial revision
- Brainstorming sessions with stakeholders
- Lead editor drafted
- Stakeholders reviewed
- Sent to BPTT for review
- Sent to BOPCOM and AEG for initial feedback
- Identified major issues for discussion
- **Next Step:** global consultation

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Contributors

BPM Editors

- Venkat Josyula
- Kristy Howell
- Joji Ishikawa
- Evrim Bese-Goksu

SNA Editors

- Peter van de Ven
- Brent Moulton
- Marshall Reinsdorf
- Patrick O'Hagan
- Carl Obst
- Sanjiv Mahajan

Other Stakeholders

- David Bailey
- Jose Carlos Moreno
- Bidisha Das
- Hector Hernandez
- Foyz Khatun
- Phil Stokoe
- Bruno Rocha
- Samah Torchani
- Andre Mialou

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SNA Ch. 21/BPM Ch. 20. Communicating and Disseminating Economic Statistics

- New chapter to provide principles and guidelines for producers of macroeconomic statistics together with innovative approaches to improve the way those statistics are communicated.
- Outline:
 - ▶ Introduction
 - ▶ Principles and Standards
 - ▶ Communication Policy and Dissemination Strategy
 - ▶ Stakeholders – Suppliers and Users
 - ▶ Statistical Confidentiality
 - ▶ Taxonomies and Metadata
 - ▶ A Framework for Measuring Alignment with the Economic Accounting Statistical Standards
 - ▶ Examples of the Use of Easier to Understand Terminology for Users

SNA Ch. 21/BPM Ch. 20. Communicating the Accounts: Initial Review

Issues Identified:

- Members expressed concern about some of the content of the chapter, especially where it goes beyond the recommendations of the CMTT GNs; they noted that adding new issues at this stage may be problematic, and perhaps these issues could be addressed separately, e.g., through the IMF Data Quality reference site—[The relevant issues are generally well-established, and often go beyond the IMF DQ-framework, certainly in the case of national accounts](#)
- Members noted that the AO should cover the discussion on gross and net measures—[Agreed in the sense that this topic needs to be covered prominently; however, having it in the introductory chapters may provide a better fit](#)
- Proposal to change in the chapter title to “Communicating and Disseminating Economic Statistics” is acceptable—[Agreed](#)
- Members also suggested to streamline the annotated outline, so that it is more similar to the other chapters—[Agreed, will look into possible quick fixes](#)

SNA Ch. 23/BPM Ch. 15. Globalization

- New thematic chapter to elaborate on issues related to globalization that are touched upon or presented throughout the manuals; brings together information into one chapter to provide context.
- Outline:
 - ▶ Introduction
 - ▶ MNEs
 - ▶ Global Production
 - ▶ Measurement Challenges
 - ▶ Alternative Indicators and Supplementary Information
 - ▶ Analytical Tools

SNA Ch. 23/BPM Ch. 15. Globalization: Initial Review

Issues Identified:

- One Member proposed to combine Sections II and III—*We think there's merit in separating the two sections; we suggest to see how it works out during drafting process*
- One Member proposed to clearly separate the conceptual/methodological issues from the more analytical aspects in Section V—*Generally agreed with such a separation, and will take it into consideration, although a complete separation may not be possible*
- Suggestion to use “profit shifting” in place of the acronym BEPS when referring to the general activity—*Agreed*
- Suggestion to consider a reference to large case units as an instrument for collecting consistent information about the economic activities of MNEs—*Agreed*
- Request to confirm that there will be additional focus on SPEs in the SNA chapter on financial corporations—*Need to see in which chapter(s) additional content would fit best*

SNA Ch. 26/BPM Ch. 17. Islamic Finance

- New chapter will present consistent guidance to properly account for Islamic finance and insurance in the national accounts and external sector statistics.
- Outline:
 - ▶ Introduction
 - ▶ General Overview of Islamic Finance and Insurance
 - ▶ Economic Ownership of Non-Financial Assets Under Specific Islamic Financial Arrangements
 - ▶ Islamic Financial Institutions/Entities Sectoring
 - ▶ Islamic Financial Institutions' Measures of Output in the SNA Production Account
 - ▶ The Nature of Returns on Islamic Investments in the Primary Income Account
 - ▶ The Classification of Islamic Financial Instruments in the Accumulation Accounts and Balance Sheet Account

SNA Ch. 26/BPM Ch. 17. Islamic Finance: Initial Review

- Consultation:
 - ▶ IFTT co-chairs, IMF STA Balance of Payments and Financial Institutions Divisions, and BPTT prior to the initial review of the AEG and BOPCOM (and also IFTT members)
 - ▶ General support for the structure and content of the chapter, with a number of helpful editorial suggestions; some very useful comments/suggestions
- Issues identified:
 - ▶ One comment on the title of the chapter—*Will be considered*
 - ▶ Whether a separate section on economic ownership is required—*There is merit in having a separate section as this is one of the main issues discussed in the GN*
 - ▶ Ensure clarity of terminology/definitions (e.g., riba versus interest, interest and similar returns)—*Agreed*
 - ▶ Ensure clarity on co-existence of traditional and Islamic finance and insurance—*Agreed*
 - ▶ Ensure clarity on Islamic financial institutions versus Islamic financial instruments—*Agreed*
 - ▶ Suggested use of decision trees and boxes—*Agreed, will be included in the draft chapter*

SNA Ch. 22/BPM Ch. 16. Digitalization

- New thematic chapter to elaborate on issues related to digitalization that are touched upon or presented throughout the manuals; brings together information into one chapter to provide context.
- It will provide definitions, explanations, and measurement guidance for the products and business models that have emerged in the digital economy.
- Outline:
 - ▶ Introduction
 - ▶ The Products that Enable Digitalization (ICT Goods and Services, Data Assets, Issues in Measurement of Software, Cloud Computing)
 - ▶ Digital Platforms (Definitions, Nonfinancial/financial DIPs, Free platforms and digital products)
 - ▶ Impact of Digitalization on Financial Services and Payments (Fintech, Digital Assets)
 - ▶ Measuring Price and Volumes of Products Affected by Digitalization
 - ▶ Analytical Tools to Show the Impact of Digitalization

General Comment from the ECB

- ECB expressed concerns about the thematic chapters and provided a proposal for having separate publications for the various themes or, alternatively, limiting their number in *BPM7* and *2025 SNA*.

Questions for the Committee and AEG

- Does the Committee and the AEG have any suggestions on the draft outlines of the chapters?
- Does the Committee and the AEG agree with the proposed structure and coverage of topics in the chapters?
- How does the Committee and the AEG look upon the general comments provided by the ECB?
- Does the Committee and the AEG agree that the Digitalization chapter AO should be circulated through written procedure after completing the consultation with the BPTT and stakeholders?