

Towards the  
2025 SNA

# SNA 2025 Implementation

## Overall approach and outreach

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# Introduction

- The thoughts put forward in this presentation are intended to stimulate discussion on the best way to support implementation of the 2025 SNA
- They are initial ideas and would benefit greatly from AEG views
- Following the AEG discussion, the ideas will be fleshed out and a preliminary version of an SNA 2025 implementation strategy will be developed
- The AEG will be invited in due course to provide comments on this strategy
- The strategy will also undergo broader consultation and AEG views on this would be welcome
- It is proposed that the finalized implementation strategy be presented to the 2025 UNSC meeting
  - By way of comparison, the Implementation Strategy for the 2008 SNA was presented to the 2009 UNSC Meeting
- Prior to the 2025 UNSC meeting, work will continue on **early implementation** and **outreach**

# Outreach

- There has already been significant outreach regarding the SNA update, for example:
  - Several regional webinars and forums devoted specifically to the update
  - Discussion of the SNA update at key regional meetings, such as the UNECE's Group of National Accounts, the OECD's Conference on National Economic and Financial Accounts and various Eurostat meetings
  - Presentation on the SNA update at the World Statistical Congress
  - The November 2022 Eurostat and UNSD conference on macroeconomic statistics for the future, which focused on the update of SNA.
  - The August 2023 Webinar on the Consolidated list of changes, to support the global consultation
  - The 'Towards SNA 2025' pages on the UNSD website, which provides a wealth of information about the update project
  - The global consultation process on the guidance notes, the annotated outlines, the consolidated list of changes and the updated chapters (ongoing)
  - An article in the SNA News and Notes on the update process
  - Reports to the UNSC

# Outreach (continued)

- Going forward, two rounds of regional outreach seminars are planned
  - These will be conducted jointly with the IMF's BPM7 update team
  - The **first round** will be virtual and will cover the proposed changes to to the SNA (and BPM). The target audience will be NA and BOP compilers. There will be a combination of joint sessions and sessions specific to the BPM and SNA.
  - These seminars will take place between November 2023 and mid 2024
  - There will be collaboration with regional institutions and UN regional commissions in conducting the seminars
  - The **second round** is planned to kick-off in 2025 following the endorsement of the 2025 SNA and BPM7
  - The target audience will be comprise senior officials as well as NA and BOP compilers
  - The session will focus on methodological changes and new data breakdowns, and participants will be invited to share their thinking about implementation planning, including timelines and possible capacity development needs
  - The seminars are expected to be in person, although the exact modalities are still under consideration

# Possible elements of an implementation strategy

- Core elements
  - Strategic approach
  - Advocacy
  - Training
  - Technical assistance
  - Preparing manuals and handbooks
  - Ongoing research
- Program modalities
  - Monitoring and evaluation
  - Assessment of country preparedness
  - Implementation stages
  - Timing of implementation
  - Coordination and governance

# Strategic approach

- The implementation of the 2025 SNA within a country should be built into the strategic plans of the national statistical office (or whatever institution is responsible for compiling the national accounts)
  - The implementation of the 2025 SNA should have strong visibility within the strategic plan, with concrete objectives and timing
- Guidelines such as those for the preparation of a National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) can be helpful
- As the implementation of the 2025 SNA will be a significant undertaking and impact several key stakeholders, it could be recommended that the implementation of the 2025 SNA should act as a catalyst for countries to update their NSDSs (or equivalent)
- Materials could be produced to assist countries in incorporating the implementation of the 2025 SNA into their NSDS
- At the level of UN Regional Commissions, the implementation of the 2025 SNA in member countries should be a key strategic priority

# Advocacy

- It is important that key stakeholders are aware of, and support, the implementation of the 2025 SNA
- Countries should be encouraged to develop a communication plan for the implementation of the 2025 SNA to accompany the strategic planning
- It is suggested that advocacy materials be prepared that could be utilised by countries, including guidelines on the best approaches to advocacy
- This should be supported by global and regional advocacy efforts, for example by way of conferences of users and producers of national accounts statistics

# Training

- Training courses should be developed to aid countries in the implementation of the 2025 SNA
- It is suggested that both in-person and on-line training be developed
- In-person training is probably best delivered regionally
  - Both 'high-level' and 'in depth' training should be provided
- On-line training materials should be made widely available through a central repository – such as the UNSD website



# Technical cooperation

- It is considered that some countries (particularly those with less developed statistical systems) will require technical assistance to implement the 2025 SNA
- International organisations with on-going technical assistance programs (such as the IMF and World Bank) should be encouraged to incorporate the implementation of the 2025 SNA into these programs, where relevant and appropriate
- Potential donor organisations should be mobilised to provide funding for technical cooperation

# Preparing manuals and handbooks

- There is already a concerted program for the development of manuals and handbooks to support the implementation of the 2025 SNA
- This work should be continued throughout the implementation period
- The proposed compilers hub will provide a repository for these materials
- To the extent possible, manuals and handbooks should be translated into languages other than English

# Ongoing research

- While the update of the 2008 SNA has been undertaken in a comprehensive manner, there may be residual areas where further work is required to support implementation, or new issues may emerge that require consideration
- There should be provision for this in the implementation strategy

# Assessment of country preparedness

- It is suggested that countries be strongly encouraged to self-assess their preparedness for implementing the 2025 SNA
  - This will provide countries with useful information to assist them in their planning for implementation
- It is proposed that an on-line self-assessment tool be developed
  - This would build on existing frameworks such as the alignment with ESS framework developed by the CMTT as part of the SNA update and the IMF's NA Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF), which may have to be tweaked for the 2025 SNA
- Countries should be encouraged to make the results of their self-assessment available to the UNSD in order to assist with global planning for the implementation

# Monitoring and evaluation

- Appropriate mechanisms should be developed for the monitoring and evaluation of the 2025 SNA implementation program
- It is expected that there will be regular reporting to the UNSC on progress with the implementation

# Implementation stages

- It is suggested that the implementation in countries be broken down into the following stages:
  - Initial planning for the implementation
  - Adaption of existing data sources, business registers and frames, classifications and information technology to support SNA 2025 implementation, and the development of new data sources as necessary
  - Preparation of national accounts estimates on an SNA 2025 basis, including backcasting
- The existing early implementation program will give countries a 'head start' on the implementation work

# Timing of implementation

- It is acknowledged that different countries will take different periods of time to implement the 2025 SNA, depending on resource availability, technical skill and national circumstances
  - Also, some countries are yet to transition to SNA 2008. (These countries should be specifically targeted as part of the implementation program, particularly for technical assistance.)
- However, it is proposed that countries be encouraged to implement the 2025 SNA within a reasonable time frame following its adoption by the UNSC, and a target date 2030 is suggested as a possibility
- In the case of the European Union, a revised ESA will need to be developed, which could impact on the timing of implementation for these countries

# Timing of implementation (continued)

- Countries should be encouraged to develop estimates on the statistical impact of moving to the 2025 SNA, which will be helpful in communicating the impact of changes to users
- For some time, some countries will be compiling estimates on an SNA 2005 basis, while others will still be compiling them on an SNA 2008 (or earlier) basis
  - To support international comparability, should countries be encouraged to report on both an SNA 2025 and SNA 2008 basis during the transition period, particularly where there are significant impacts?



# Coordination and governance

- It is proposed that the governance be kept 'light touch'
- The ISWGNA should have oversight of the implementation program
- The AEG can play a role in advising the ISWGNA
- As the implementation of the 2025 SNA will proceed in parallel with the implementation of BPM7, mechanisms will need to be established to achieve coordination
  - This will be the subject of discussion with the IMF BPM update team
- The implementation program will require resources, which will need funding
  - This could come from 'core' funds within international organizations or through donor funding
- A successful implementation program should be seen as a investment in ensuring that macroeconomic statistics remain relevant
- Is anything further required?

# Questions for AEG

- Does the AEG have any views on the proposed outreach plans for the 2025 SNA?
- Regarding the implementation strategy, have all elements been identified or are any missing?
- In terms of the elements, what are the AEG's views on the ideas that have been put forward?
- What are the AEG's views on broader consultation regarding the development of the implementation strategy?



THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST