

SNA News

Number 36
May 2013

An information service of the Intersecretariat
Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA)
published by UNSD
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DECISIONS OF THE STATISTICAL COMMISSION ON NATIONAL ACCOUNTS By UNSD

The forty-fourth session of the Statistical Commission was held in New York from 26 February – 1 March 2013. Under agenda item 3(c) National Accounts, the Commission made a number of decisions and provided guidance to the global statistical community on the national accounts programme. It considered the Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA)¹. The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report of the ISWGNA and expressed its appreciation for the work done by the Working Group over the past year;

(b) Commended the progress on making the System of National Accounts, 2008² ((2008 SNA) available in the official languages of the United Nations, and expressed its appreciation to the institutions and countries involved in the translation process;

(c) Endorsed the programme of work of the ISWGNA and the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts, welcomed that priority will be given to addressing issues emerging from the 2008 SNA implementation, and requested the ISWGNA to report on the outcomes to the Commission in due course;

¹ E/CN.3/2013/4
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/doc13/2013-4-NationalAccounts-E.pdf>

² United Nations publication, Sales No. E.08.XVII.29
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/sna2008.asp>

(d) Expressed appreciation for the activities undertaken by international organizations, regional commissions, other regional organizations and countries providing bilateral technical assistance to facilitate the implementation of the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics;

(e) Appreciated the progress regarding and completion of a number of manuals, handbooks and guidelines that facilitate the implementation of the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics, and urged the Working Group to expedite the development of the handbooks and guidelines;

(f) Noted the outcome of the surveys on plans by countries for the implementation of the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics, and expressed concern that, despite progress in a number of countries, many countries are still a long way from adjusting their collections of supporting statistics for implementing the SNA;

(g) Urged countries to develop strategic planning frameworks, taking into account their priorities for the national work programme for national accounts and supporting statistics to support evidence-based policymaking and to allocate sufficient resources for the statistical programme of work on the implementation of national accounts and supporting statistics;

(h) Requested the UNSD, in collaboration with the ISWGNA, supporting countries and other regional organizations, to scale up

coordination, advocacy and resources for the implementation of the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics at the national level, where required, by promoting stronger commitment by national Governments to advancing the work programme for national accounts and supporting statistics;

(i) Requested countries to support the UNSD in this task, taking into account, inter alia, coordination, political engagement and resources at the national level, lessons learned from other international initiatives, such as the International Comparison Programme and the Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics, the sharing of national experiences, engagement of the national statistical system, including central banks and other ministries, as well as the data and metadata reporting mechanisms to regional and international organizations, common existing software and other tools for the compilation of national accounts and the broader measures of progress presently considered by countries;

(j) Requested the ISWGNA to report to the Commission in 2014 on the progress made in scaling up coordination, advocacy and funding for the implementation of the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics;

(k) Recognized that the compilation of gross domestic product is a fundamental statistical reporting requirement for countries and an essential element in the formulation of the statistical response to the work programme on the broader measures of progress, as articulated in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)³;

(l) Requested the ISWGNA and the regional commissions to ensure that the collection, validation and dissemination of the data collected from countries are harmonized and that unnecessary duplication is avoided.

³ General Assembly resolution 66/288.

TREATMENT OF THE OUTPUT OF CENTRAL BANKS By ISWGNA

The recommendations for measuring the output of central banks in the 2008 SNA and ESA 2010 are slightly different. The difference mainly relates to whether or not the central bank services are to be considered market output, and to identify which sector consumes the relevant services.

The 2008 SNA identifies three categories of services provided by the central bank: (i) monetary policy services; (ii) financial intermediation services; and (iii) supervisory services (*paragraph 6.151*).

Monetary policy services are considered as "... collective in nature, serving the community as a whole, and thus represent non-market output". The use of these collective services is to be allocated to general government, with a current transfer from the central bank to government as counterpart transaction.

On the other hand, "financial intermediation services are individual in nature and in the absence of policy interventions in the interest rates charged by the central banks would be treated as market production",

payable by the units to whom they are delivered.

Supervisory services are typically borderline cases and can be non-market or market, depending on the level of fees as compared to costs. If they are market, they are recorded as intermediate consumption of financial intermediaries. If they are non-market, they are to be recorded as government consumption expenditure.

In the case that the above delineation between the three categories cannot be made, the 2008 SNA recommends that the whole output of the central bank should be treated as non-market and valued at the sum of costs (*paragraph 6.152*).

The ESA 2010 also distinguishes between the above three categories of services. However, all output of central banks is considered as market output. By convention, this output is measured at the sum of costs.

In this respect, it is noted that trial calculations of FISIM for central banks in Europe have proven to provide unsatisfactory results. Consequently ESA 2010 states that in

Europe no FISIM should be calculated for central banks.

Only the part of the total central bank output which is not sold (= sum of costs less commissions and fees) has to be allocated, by convention, to the intermediate consumption of other financial intermediaries (Deposit taking corporations except the central bank (S122) and Other financial intermediaries except insurance corporations and pension funds (S125) – in proportion to the respective value added of each of these sub-sectors), with a counterpart current transfer from the central bank.

The ESA approach to measuring the output of central banks as the sum of costs can be looked upon as a simplified application of the more detailed guidance provided by the 2008 SNA, and thus, in this respect ESA 2010 can be considered to be broadly consistent with the 2008 SNA.

When it comes to the use of central bank services not covered by fees explicitly charged, the difference between ESA 2010 (users are limited to financial intermediaries) and the 2008 SNA (general government is to be considered as the user of these services) is more evident.

Paragraphs 6.151 to 6.156 of the 2008 SNA consider two options for the output of

central banks: (a) non-market output and (b) market output. The argument for option (a) is that central bank's services are for the benefit of society as a whole, while that for option (b) is that such services are contributing to the functioning of financial intermediaries. The 2008 SNA then goes on to consider general government as the user of the non-market services.

ESA 2010 has a somewhat different line of reasoning. It considers the whole amount of central bank services as market output allocating the output excluding fees explicitly charged to other units, to financial intermediaries as a whole.

According to ESA 2010 methodology, any activities of the central bank (except fees explicitly charged to government or households) will not affect GDP and final demand. On the other hand, according to the methodology of the 2008 SNA, GDP and final demand will be affected if the central bank output is allocated to government. Thus, the full implementation of the 2008 SNA / ESA 2010 recommendations for the treatment of the output of the central bank may present an issue for international comparability of data on GDP and government final consumption across countries.

OECD-WTO DATABASE ON TRADE IN VALUE-ADDED By OECD

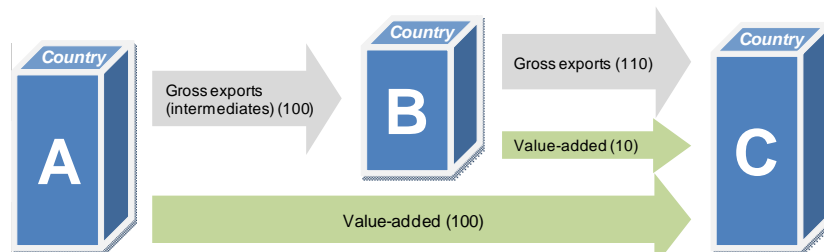
Global value chains (GVCs) have become a dominant feature of today's global economy. This process of international fragmentation, driven by technological progress, cost, access to resources and markets, and trade policy reforms, challenges our conventional wisdom on how we look at and interpret trade¹ and, in particular, the policies that we develop around it. Traditional measures of trade, that record gross flows of goods and services each and every time they cross borders, alone, may lead to misguided decisions being taken. Responding to these challenges the OECD and the WTO have undertaken a joint initiative to develop a database of Trade in Value-Added indicators and to mainstream their compilation within the international statistical system.

Preliminary results were launched on 16 January 2013, which were updated during May 2013.

This note presents a broad overview of the preliminary results from the initiative and an indication of future plans.

What is Trade in Value-Added?

The Trade in Value-Added (TiVA) initiative addresses the double counting implicit in current gross flows of trade, and instead measures flows related to the **value** that is **added** (labour compensation, taxes and profits) by a country in the production of any good or service that is exported.



The simple example above illustrates this. Country A exports \$100 of goods, produced entirely within country A, to country B that further processes them before exporting them to country C where they are consumed. Country B adds value of \$10 to the goods and so exports \$110 to country C. Conventional measures of trade show total global exports and imports of \$210 but only \$110 of value-added has been generated in their production. Conventional measures also show that country C has a trade deficit of \$110 with country B, and no trade at all with country A, despite the fact that country A is the chief beneficiary of country C's consumption. If instead we track flows in value-added, country C's trade deficit with country B reduces to \$10 and it now runs a deficit of \$100 with country A.

How is Trade in Value-Added measured?

The indicators of TiVA are derived from global input-output tables, developed by the OECD, which describe interactions between producers and consumers for 57 economies, reflecting 95% of global output (see also www.oecd.org/trade/valueadded).

What can the database tell us?

The database aims to inform trade policy in a number of areas, and to better reflect:

- the significantly higher contribution made by services in GVCs;

- the role of imports of intermediate goods and services in export performance;
- the true nature of economic interdependencies;
- the role of emerging economies in GVCs; and
- how supply and demand shocks might impact on downstream and upstream production.

Open and efficient services markets matter

The production of services comprises about two-thirds of GDP in most developed economies. However, in gross terms, trade in services typically account for less than one-quarter of total trade. But accounting for the value added by services industries in the production of goods shows that the service sector contributes over 50% of total exports in the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany and Italy and nearly one-third in China (Figure 1) with a significant contribution (typically one-third) across all goods (Figure 2), provided by both foreign and domestic service providers. In France, for example, over half of the domestic value-added generated in producing transport equipment and parts originates in the French services industries.

Figure 1: Services share of total gross value added exports, 2009

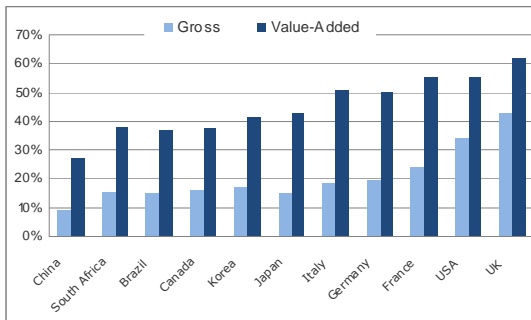
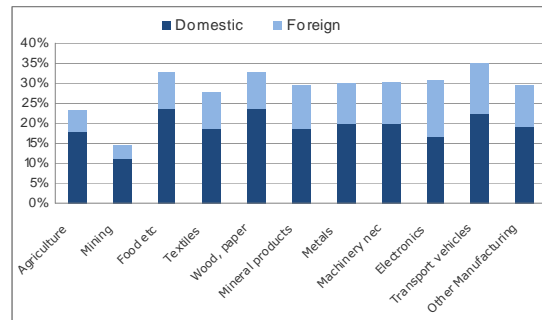


Figure 2: Services share of gross exports in goods, 2009



Exports require imports

To improve productivity and remain competitive in a world dominated by GVCs requires access to efficient imports of intermediate goods as well as services.

Around one-third of the total value of exports of transport equipment and parts by most major producers originated abroad in 2009 (Figure 3), reflecting the emergence of regional production hubs. In the United States and Japan, the shares were only around one-fifth, reflecting their larger scope to source inputs from domestic providers but this was also the case for Italy, possibly reflecting efficient upstream domestic networks of small

and medium enterprises. Interestingly, in 2009, Germany exported nearly 40% more than the United States in gross terms but less than 10% more in value-added terms.

Similar patterns emerge in other industries. For example in China and the Republic of Korea, two of the world's largest exporters of electronic goods in 2009, the foreign content of exports of these products was over 40% (Figure 4). In Mexico, the share was over 60%. In gross terms Mexico exported over 40% more than the United Kingdom but in value-added terms these positions reverse with the United Kingdom exporting over 20% more domestic value-added than Mexico.

Figure 3: Transport goods, Import content of exports, US \$ billion, 2009

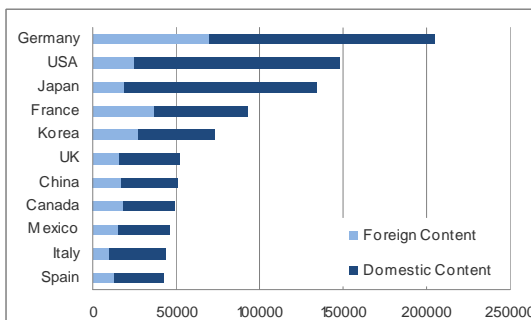
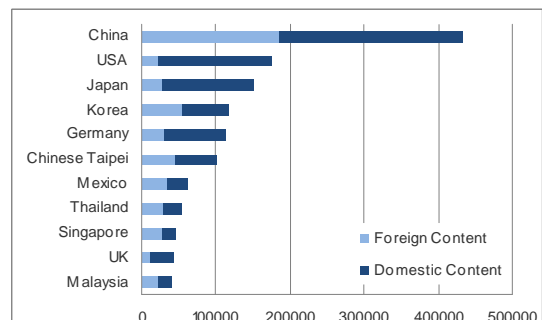


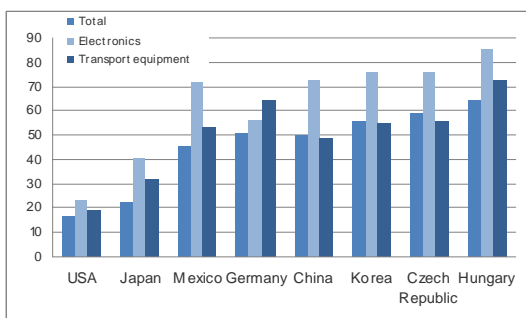
Figure 4: Electronic goods, Import content of exports, US \$ billion, 2009



And significant shares of intermediate imports are used to produce exports

In most economies, around one-third of intermediate imports are destined for the export market. Not surprisingly, typically, the smaller the economy the higher the share, but even in the United States and Japan these shares are around 15% and 20% respectively at the total economy level, with higher incidence of intermediate imports in some highly integrated industries. In Japan for example nearly 40% of all intermediate imports of transport equipment and parts end up in exports (Figure 5).

Figure 5: Intermediate import embodied in exports, 2009, Per cent of total intermediate imports



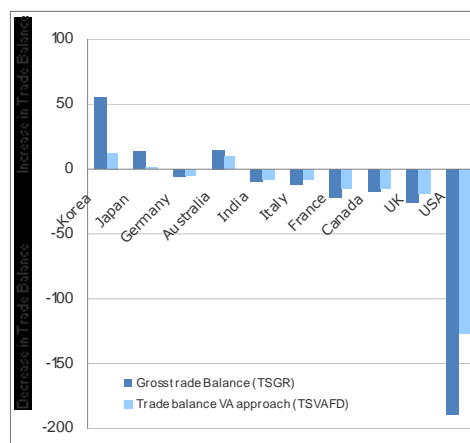
In most other countries, the share of intermediate imports embodied in exports is significantly higher. In Hungary, for example two-thirds of all intermediate imports are destined for the export market after further processing, with the share reaching nearly 90% for electronic intermediate imports. In China, the Republic of Korea and Mexico, around three-quarters of all intermediate imports of electronics are embodied in exports. The TiVA database also shows that over 80% of China's intermediate imports of textile products end up in exports.

What you see is not what you get: Trade patterns change

Bilateral trade balance positions can change significantly when measured in value-added terms, although the total trade balance is unaffected. China's bilateral trade surplus with the United States was over USD 60 billion (one-third) smaller in value-added terms in 2009 for example. This partly reflects the higher share of United States value-added imports in Chinese final demand (Figure 6) but also the fact that a significant share (one-third) of China's exports reflect foreign content - the "Factory Asia" phenomenon.

For example, significant exports of value-added from the Republic of Korea and Japan pass through China on their way to final consumers, resulting in significantly smaller Chinese trade deficits with these countries but also typically higher Japanese and Korean trade surpluses with other countries. Similarly the Republic of Korea's significant trade deficit with Japan in gross terms almost disappears when measured in value-added terms.

Figure 6: Changes in China's Bilateral Trade balances, US \$ billion, 2009



Database Content

The May 2013 release of the database included data for 57 economies, including all OECD countries and Russia, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia and South Africa covering 1995, 2000, 2005, 2008 and 2009, with a breakdown into 18 industries. Indicators in the database include:

- gross exports by industries broken down into their domestic and foreign content, with the domestic content split into three (direct, indirect and re-imported) components and the foreign content broken down by source country;
- services content of gross exports by exporting industry (broken down by foreign/domestic origin);
- bilateral trade balances based on flows of value-added embodied in domestic final demand; and
- intermediate imports embodied in exports, as a per cent of total intermediate imports.

Future Releases

Future releases will see a continued expansion in: the number of countries and years covered and industry disaggregation; the number of indicators; and degree of detail presented.

One important aspect of the work underpinning the TiVA initiative is the development of a global input-output database. This versatile tool lends itself to the development of indicators in a number of other policy areas. Two important areas in this respect concern 'trade in jobs and skills', where indicators will begin to be rolled out for some countries later this year and over the longer term; and how income (profits) generated from trade flows, in particular income generated via knowledge based assets, is further distributed between affiliated companies will also be explored. The Statistical Information System also lends itself to the calculation of indicators in a number of other areas such as carbon footprints, where the OECD will look to update its earlier results, notably as part of the OECD Green Growth Indicators.

Statistical Quality

It is important to stress that the indicators shown in the TiVA database are **estimates**. Official gross statistics on international trade produced by national statistical institutions result in inconsistent figures for total global exports and total global imports; inconsistencies which are

magnified when bilateral partner country positions are considered. The global input-output tables from which TiVA indicators are derived, necessarily eliminate these inconsistencies, such as those that reflect different national treatments of re-exports and transit trade (e.g. through hubs such as China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region), to achieve a coherent picture of global trade. For the countries for which data is presented, total exports and imports are consistent with official national accounts estimates. But bilateral trade positions presented in the database (based on gross flows) and those published by national statistical institutions may differ. Work is on-going within the international statistical community to achieve coherence in international trade flows, particularly in the area of trade in services, where significant differences exist when comparing national statistics.

Further work is on-going within the OECD to develop more detailed input-output and/or supply-use tables that better capture the international dimension inherent in global production. In most countries the development, and analysis, of supply-use tables is built on the underlying assumption that there is homogeneity in the organization of firms categorized to a given economic activity. This was always known to be a stretching example but the global organization of firms today, witnessed by an explosion of processing firms, merchanters, factoryless firms, SPEs etc and the increasing importance of transactions related to knowledge, has made this assumption even more stretching. To better respond to the growing need to understand trade today, as well as global value chains, what is needed are supply-use tables that provide activity breakdowns on this basis. In simple, and perhaps crude, terms what is needed are breakdowns that are able to categorize firms according to their export and import intensities; which was the subject of a workshop organized by the OECD Statistics Directorate in October 2012. This, and related initiatives, will form a key theme around a Statistical Conference on Measuring Trade in Value Added that the OECD has provisionally planned for 5-6 December 2013.

Accessing the Database

The OECD-WTO TiVA database can be accessed via the OECD's Statistics Portal <http://stats.oecd.org/> under the theme "**International Trade and Balance of Payments**" and through WTO's portal <http://www.wto.org/miwi>

For more information on the methodology behind the TIVA database and indicators see www.oecd.org/trade/valueadded.

For any queries on the database please contact TIVA.contact@oecd.org

¹ In this note trade refers to international trade.

MEASURING THE INFORMAL SECTOR TO ACHIEVE EXHAUSTIVENESS OF NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

By Economic Commission for Africa

The informal sector plays an important role in developing economies, especially in Africa, as one of the major sources of employment and thus sources of income; as well as one of the main producers of goods and services and thus contributing to the GDP of the economy.

The informal sector related statistics are useful and essential for policy analysis and formulation in a range of areas such as poverty reduction, labour force and employment, women's contribution to the economy, and economic and social development. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), during the period 2000-2007 the working population in Africa grew by 96 million people while the number of jobs created grew by only 63 million. As a result, there was a gap of 33 million people with no formal jobs who might have to survive through various informal jobs.

The *African Economic Outlook 2012* (see http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en/in-depth/youth_employment/) estimated that Africa has currently the youngest population aged 15-24 years old at around 200 million and this population is expected to double by 2045. In general, it will be difficult for the formal sector to absorb all the new job seekers in the near future and the informal sector will still remain a key player of the labor market.

In terms of the regional integration in Africa, while official statistics for 2011 indicate that the intra-African trade represents only 12.8% of the total foreign trade, some ad-hoc case studies have found that the informal cross-border trade can represent from 15% of total foreign trade in Nigeria to more than 200% in countries such as the Central African Republic and Equatorial Guinea. Given its informality, to measure properly the size and

contribution of the informal sector and informal employment has been challenging for many African countries.

The recent survey administrated by the Economic Commission for Africa shows that the challenges also include also issues related to methods to be used for data collection, the frequency of data collection in a cost-effective way, and methodologies that are most appropriate for incorporating the informal sector into GDP and national accounts.

Against this backdrop, a meeting of the African Group on Employment and the Informal Sector (AGEIS) was organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa jointly with the African Development Bank, the International Labour Organization, AFRISTAT, and the National Statistics Institute of Cameroon in Yaoundé, Cameroon, from 29 April to 3 May 2013. The purpose of the meeting was to review and exchange experience and practices within and outside of the region and to identify the most appropriate methods and procedures for the countries to apply in their work plans on the African continent.

The meeting invited 40 experts in national accounts and survey design from 20 countries that have actively participated and responded to the abovementioned survey on the informal sector, plus experts from the related international and regional organizations, and some of the authors of a recent manual on the internationally recommended statistical methods in this area, *Measuring Informality: A Statistical Manual on the Informal Sector and Informal Employment* (ILO, 2012, available from http://www.ilo.org/stat/Publications/WCMS_182300/lang-en/index.htm).

Participants of the meeting reviewed and deliberated on the key international recommendations and their relevance as reflected in the Manual. They shared and exchanged country experiences, discussed the most appropriate data collection methods and methodologies on how to incorporate the data on the informal sector and informal employment into the computation of national accounts. Participants also identified pending technical areas to be focused on and tackled by the upcoming United Nations Development Account Inter-regional Project: "Use of Data on the Informal Sector and Related Information to Achieve Exhaustiveness of National Accounts" to be led by the Economic Commission for Africa. Moreover, a number of countries have expressed their interest to be the pilot countries of the project.

Some key findings from the meeting are summarized in the following. For data collection methods, experiences show that modular type mixed surveys, as used by many countries, are the most adequate in the African context, as they provide much useful information for the estimation of informal employment, employment in the informal sector, and other data on the informal sector.

Between two surveys, countries should ask appropriate questions to measure informal employment and employment in the informal sector through household-based surveys organized and conducted in the countries. At the same time, countries are encouraged to expedite the data collection, processing, compilation and dissemination process, and promptly release the final results through simplifying questionnaires, adopting mobile devices for data collection, providing adequate resources, and better planning for tabulation and analysis.

In terms of how to incorporate informal sector data into national accounts, the meeting concluded that the direct method is the most suitable for integrating informal sector data in national accounts. However, given the irregularity of surveys, the indirect method is recommended between two major surveys. The participants requested the development of guidelines for applying indirect methods with illustrative case studies.

In this regard, the Development Account project will contribute to the capacity building in the countries on the African continent. During the implementation of the Development Account project, regional and sub-regional agencies will closely work together to make technical contributions.

The Operational Manual to be developed as part of the Development Account project will reflect and develop more detailed methodology for incorporating informal sector data into national accounts, including indirect methods.

Regarding concepts and definitions of informality, countries agreed on the need for a common set of criteria for defining informal employment and the informal sector more generally. The set of criteria will follow the recommendations in the ILO Handbook on measuring informality and build on good practices and experience in African countries. The results of the AGEIS meeting will be reported to the next session of the Statistical Commission for Africa (StatCom-Africa).

THE STATE OF GLOBAL CIVIL SOCIETY AND VOLUNTEERING – LATEST FINDINGS FROM THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN NONPROFIT HANDBOOK

By the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies

The Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies recently announced the release of a report, *"The State of Global Civil Society and Volunteering – Latest findings from the implementation of the UN Nonprofit Handbook"*, which compares data from the sixteen countries that have implemented the United Nations Handbook on Non-Profit

Institutions. The reports notes that a "global associational revolution", a major upsurge of organized, private, voluntary and non-profit activity, has been under way around the world for the past thirty years or more and draws on data generated by statistical offices in the sixteen countries.¹ The full report is available at <http://bit.ly/WuRhZ>.

The *Handbook on Non-Profit Institutions in the System of National Accounts* (United Nations, 2003, available from http://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/SeriesF/SeriesF_91E.pdf) recommends the development of data on non-profit institutions (NPIs) to be undertaken within the framework of the System of National Accounts (SNA) 1993. The framework for the NPIs and related concepts and classifications are designed as an extension and clarification of those underlying the 1993 SNA. The objective of developing NPI data is to improve and make available data on a sector that is growing in importance and that is often ignored or little developed in the economy-wide compilation of national accounts. The Handbook was prepared in close collaboration between the Johns Hopkins University Center for Civil Society Studies and the United Nations Statistics Division. These institutions are collaborating again on updating the Handbook to take into account the recommendations of the 2008 SNA, the latest standard for the compilation of national accounts, as well as experience from implementing the Handbook.

The NPI sector determined by the Handbook is much larger than that visible through official national accounts statistics. In the national accounts, many NPIs are grouped together with for-profit businesses or government agencies, because they receive substantial portions of their revenue from fees and charges or government payments, respectively. As such, only "non-profit institutions serving households" — typically those financed mostly by philanthropy — have consequently been visible in national accounts. Reflecting this, the full NPI sector as compiled through non-profit satellite accounts is, on average, twice as large as that visible through standard national accounts statistics (3.5 percent vs. 1.7 percent of GDP in the 10 countries for which such a comparison is possible).

Other key findings in the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies report are summarized below.

- The workforce of non-profit institutions, including paid and volunteer workers, makes up 7.4 percent of the total workforce on average in the thirteen countries on

which full data are available. In 6 of the 13 countries for which data are available, NPIs make up 10 percent or more of the total workforce, making them one of the largest employers of any industry in these countries.

- With the value of volunteer work included, non-profit institutions account for 4.5 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) in the 15 countries for which data are available.
- The vast majority (nearly 75 percent) of gross value added (GVA) of NPIs is generated through service activities as opposed to expressive activities² in the 14 countries on which data are available.
- On average, non-profit institutions devote the majority of their expenditures to labour costs, as opposed to intermediate consumption — the purchase of goods and services from other industries for use in producing output. NPIs also tend to spend very little on interest payments, rent payments, and taxes.
- Since NPIs do not have large operating surpluses and are often exempt from paying taxes, it follows that employee compensation is often the major, and even the sole, component of their contribution to value added. Employee compensation as a percentage of gross value added amounts to 84 percent vs. 49 percent on average for the rest of the economy for the thirteen countries on which data are available. This may help to explain why the NPI sector accounts, on average, for 7.4 percent of the workforce of the target countries but only 4.5 percent of the value added.
- NPIs, on average, receive far less of their revenue from philanthropy than is commonly thought. Rather, 43 percent of the revenue comes from fees for their services, 32 percent from government sources, and only 23 percent from philanthropic giving. Due to the difficulty of identifying the government portion of market

sales and "transfers", however, it is likely these estimates understate the government share of NPI funding and overstate the philanthropic share.

- The NPI sector is a growing economic presence in countries throughout the world. In the eight countries for which longitudinal data are available the NPI sector grew at an average rate of 5.8 percent per year over the period from the late 1990s to the mid-2000s compared to 5.2 percent for the economies as a whole in these countries.³

The data presented in the report make clear that the NPI sector is a considerable economic force and employer, accounting for 10 or more percent of the labour force in a number of countries and contributing substantially to the value added in particular industries – for example in Portugal, where NPIs account for about 76 percent of total value added in social services.

These comparative data are available because governments have recognized the importance of generating a more accurate picture of the role of non-profit institutions in their countries and have voluntarily agreed to implement the guidelines presented in the United Nations Handbook on Non-Profit Institutions in the System of National Accounts. The scope of the NPI sector that emerges from the application of these guidelines provides a much more comprehensive view of this sector and its economic importance than the one available in the core system of national accounts.

Now that a path exists for putting the global NPI sector onto the economic map of countries in a systematic and comparative way, other countries will hopefully follow the lead of those presented in the report in order to bring this crucial sector into better view for policy-makers, sector leaders, and citizens. Statistical authorities, civil society and foundation leaders, and public officials interested in exploring the possibility of implementing the *UN NPI Handbook* in their countries are encouraged to contact the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies at unhandbook@jhu.edu.

¹ The sixteen countries completing at least one NPI satellite account and covered in this report are: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, the Czech Republic, France, Israel, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Mozambique, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Thailand, and the United States.

² Expressive activities refer to sports and recreation, arts and culture, interest representation and advocacy.

³ Measured in current prices. Does not include the value of volunteer work.

MEETINGS AND SEMINARS

SIAP First Intermediate Level e-Learning Course on SNA, 3 June – 2 August 2013
(http://www.unsiap.or.jp/e_learning/1306_e_SNA_INT_1.php)

National Seminar on Developing a Programme for the Implementation of the 2008 SNA and Supporting Statistics in Jordan, UNSD, UNESCWA and the Department of Statistics in Jordan (DOS), 23 June 2013, Amman, Jordan
(<http://www.escwa.un.org/information/meetingdetails.asp?referenceNum=3155E>)

Eurostat/OECD Task Force on Land and non-financial assets, 24-25 June 2013, Vienna, Austria

High Level meeting and Regional Seminar on the Implementation of 2008 SNA and Supporting Statistics in the Arab Region, 24-27 June 2013, Amman, Jordan
(<http://www.escwa.un.org/information/meetingdetails.asp?referenceNum=2163E>)

Global Conference on the G-20 Data Gaps Initiative (organized by the IMF and the FSB Secretariat), June 25-26, 2013, Washington D.C. USA

World Statistics Conference, 25-30 August 2013, Hong Kong

OECD Working Parties on Financial Statistics and National Accounts, 30 September – 4 October 2013, Paris, France

SIAP Regional Workshop on 2008 SNA (advanced), 14 – 18 October 2013, Daejeon, Republic of Korea

Joint EFTA/Eurostat/UNECE Workshop on the Implementation and Links between the System of National Accounts 2008 and the Government Finance Statistics Manual for EECCA and SEE countries, 20 – 22 November 2013, Istanbul, Turkey
(<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2013.02.sna.html>)

Editorial Note

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