



# Guidelines on Integrated Economic Statistics

United Nations Statistics Division

Regional Seminar on Developing a Programme for the Implementation  
Programme of the 2008 SNA and the Implementation Strategy for the  
SEEA Central Framework in the Pacific Region

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# Outline

- \* Introduction
- \* Purpose of integration
- \* Drivers of integration
- \* Integrated approach to economic statistics
- \* Main benefits of integrated economic statistics

# Introduction

- \* Recognizing the significance of an integrated approach for increasing the consistency and coherence of economic statistics to enhance the quality and analytical value of the information
- \* Statistical Commission (UNSC) at its 37<sup>th</sup> session in 2006 established FOC group for developing guidelines on Integrated Economic Statistics.
- \* Based on the FOC report UNSC at its 42<sup>nd</sup> session in 2011 endorsed the ***Guidelines on Integrated Economic Statistics***, available at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/ies/GuidelinesIES.pdf>

# Purpose

- \* The purpose of the Guidelines on Integrated Economic Statistics is to:
  - \* aid countries in preparing a set of integrated economic statistics in response to the need for a consistent framework for measuring a country's economic activity in an increasingly interconnected global economy.
  - \* provide a consistent and reliable assessment of a country's economic activity for policy and analytical uses.

# Drivers of integration

- \* **Data users:** meets policy use – consistent and coherent set of micro and macro statistics at various points in time of the business cycle.
- \* **Data producers:** de-stovepipe statistical production;
- \* **Data providers:** cost effective and less response burden

# Integrated approach to economic statistics

Three interrelated building blocks support the integrated approach to economic statistics :

- \* **Common conceptual framework** provided by the System of National Accounts;
- \* **Institutional arrangements** (legislative, organizational, budgetary, managerial and customer relationship arrangements) further support the environment for integration in both centralized and decentralized statistical systems ;
- \* **Integrated statistical production process:** a production chain from the collection of basic data to the dissemination of resulting statistics.

# Common conceptual framework

\*Central to the integration of economic statistics is the System of National Accounts which is a conceptual framework ensuring consistency of concepts, definitions and classifications across the various datasets.

# Institutional arrangements

- \* Essential basis for building and maintaining successfully an integrated approach to economic statistics;
- \* Institutional arrangements encompass the components of
  - \* Legislative, organizational, budgetary, managerial and customer relationship arrangements required;
  - \* Coordination among data producers, providers and users through advisory committees, memorandums of understanding, service level agreements, relationship committees, cross-agency teams;
  - \* Strategic planning and process management;
  - \* Human and financial resources.



# Integrated statistical production process

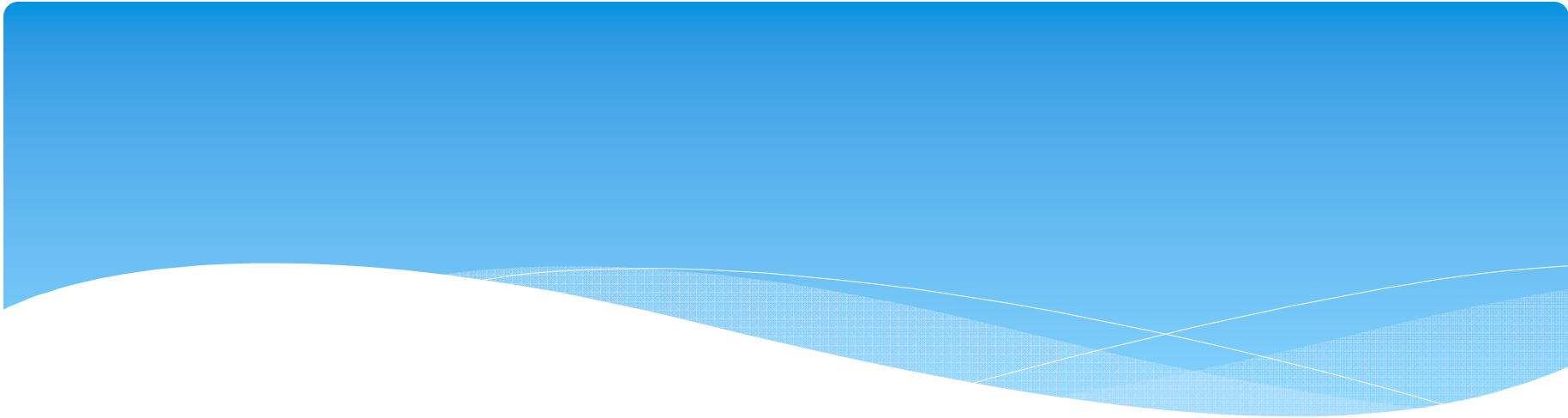
- \* The statistical production process includes the use of recommended methods for data collection, processing and dissemination through the components of:
  - \* Standards and methods with common concepts, classifications; the definition of units; harmonization with international macro and sectoral standards; data editing and processing; meta data; and data quality
  - \* Business registers and frames;
  - \* Data sources including surveys and use of administrative data
  - \* Dissemination and communication practices.

## Main benefits of integrated economic statistics

- \* Consistency and coherence
  - \* between monthly and other short-term indicators and quarterly and annual macroeconomic data on the state of the economy
  - \* across sectors in depicting trends in, and the distribution of, economic activity across products, industries, and regions
- \* Transparency
  - \* in concepts and definitions so that decision-makers are using common metrics for macroeconomic, sectoral, trade, financial, and other policies.
- \* Accuracy
  - \* in the economic data through the reconciliation of discrepancies across data from different sources as part of the integration process

## Main benefits of integrated economic statistics

- \* Reduction in reporting burden and increase in cost efficiency
  - \* in the production of data through the use of common definitions, common or reconciled business registers, common or integrated questionnaires, common and integrated electronic data collection, processing, and dissemination systems, use of administrative records, and other strategies for integration.
- \* Relevance and timeliness
  - \* More relevant statistics that more quickly address user needs through the development of integrated links to advisory committees, new management and legal structures, and new data dissemination systems.



**Thank You**