Coordination mechanisms for capacity building in economic statistics and national accounts

Side event at the 47th session of the United Nations Statistical Commission

8 March 2016

United Nations Statistics Division
Background

- High-quality, readily available national accounts data are fundamental for the formulation and monitoring of macroeconomic and sectoral policies (e.g. employment, inflation, finance growth etc.) as well as for economic analyses.

- They are also important for monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

- Despite progress, many countries are still lagging behind to adjust their statistical system to reach the sufficient level of scope, detail and quality of the 2008 SNA.
What can be done to assist countries to effectively and efficiently improve their national accounts and supporting economic statistics in order to respond to all the data demands?

The UN Statistical Commission called for a *harmonized integrated statistics programme* for developing statistical capacity in support of the compilation of internationally comparable macroeconomic accounts.
Issues to consider

- Overcoming national issues in producing internationally comparable macroeconomic accounts.
- Secure high level support in the countries for economic statistics and national accounts.
- The role of regional and international agencies
  - in making available commonly agreed managerial, technical and statistical tools
  - to introduce modern statistical architecture for a sustained statistical production processes
Can an *International coordination mechanism for a harmonized integrated statistics programme* be established?

Examples

- International Comparison Programme
- Global Strategy to Improve Agriculture and Rural Statistics
Adopted by the Commission in 2010


• **Objective**
  - Change over to the 2008 SNA;
  - *improve scope, detail and quality of the national accounts and supporting statistics*

• **Principles**
  - strategic planning
  - coordination, monitoring and reporting
  - improving statistical systems
Light coordination
- building on the relative strengths of the organizations
- minimize duplication of efforts
- address training and technical cooperation, publication of manuals and handbooks, research and advocacy

Support to countries
- **UNSD**: TA through collaboration with regional commissions,
- **World Bank**: TA and financial support to countries and regional institutions to improve statistical capacity
- **IMF**: TA on national accounts and prices, LT advisors, Training
- **Eurostat and OECD**: Support their MS.
Regional Commissions facilitated the development of SNA implementation plans in line with the Global plan:

- ECE 2013 - Recommendations for the implementation of the 2008 SNA in EECCA and SEE countries [http://www1.unece.org/stat/platform/display/SNA2008Imp/Home]
National level

- Identify the macro economic policy needs to determine the scope and detail of the NA that needs to be compiled
- Determine the required actions for implementation
  - Regulatory and institutional framework
  - Statistical infrastructure
  - Statistical operations
- Follow an integrated statistics approach
Integrated statistics approach

Macroeconomic accounts

Household and demographic statistics

Economic & environmental statistics

Data integration

Data processing

Data collection

Registers and frames

Surveys

Statistical operations

Outputs / Dissemination

Inputs

Statistical infrastructure

Information, Communication Technology (ICT)

Management and internal policy

Institutional setting

Institutional arrangements

Standards and methods
Thank You