2008 SNA – No Country Left Behind

ISWGNA Implementation Taskforce

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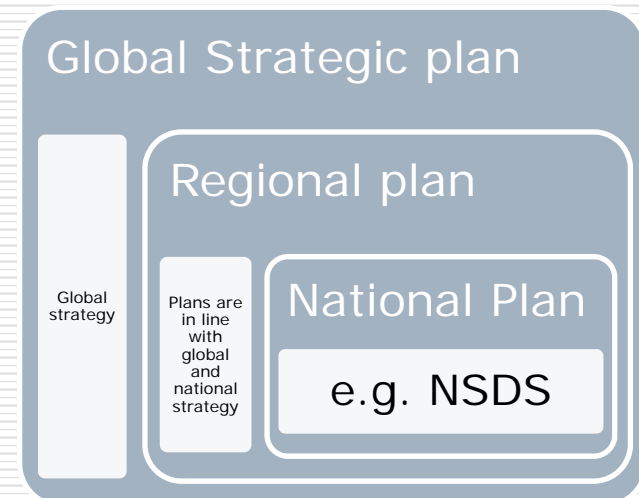
National Accounts Inter-Regional Advisor

UNSD

Global implementation programme of the 2008 SNA

Global initiative to assist countries in developing statistical and institutional capacity to:

a) make the conceptual changeover from the 1968 or 1993 SNA to the 2008 SNA and

b) improve the _scope_, _detail_ and _quality_ of national accounts and supporting economic statistics

Based on agreed principles of the implementation strategy, strategic planning, an integrated statistical system, coordination, monitoring and reporting

Global Strategic plan

Global strategy

Regional plan

Plans are in line with global and national strategy

National Plan

e.g. NSDS

Global Program – Global Support

- ISWGNA:
  - UNSD
  - IMF
  - World Bank
  - OECD
  - Eurostat

- Regional Partners: Regional Commissions, Development Banks and more

- Many NSOs

Modalities of statistical capacity-building

Training and technical cooperation

Publication of manuals and handbooks

Research

Advocacy

UNSD training and technical cooperation activities

- Objective
  - Strengthen capacity in the <u>collection</u>, <u>compilation</u> and <u>dissemination</u> of national accounts

  - Improve the <u>scope</u>, <u>detail</u> and <u>quality</u> of national accounts and supporting economic statistics

  - Facilitate the conceptual changeover from the 1968 or 1993 SNA to the 2008 SNA

- Coordinated with partners such as UN regional Commissions, ISWGNA and countries

UNSD training and technical cooperation activities

- Training workshops in cooperation with regional commissions and other partners

- Development of e-learning material on the SNA

- Development of compilation guides

- Ad hoc country assistance through the activities of the Interregional Advisor

Advisory Expert Group 12/2017

- Meeting in December 2017 noted that the March 2018 UNSC meeting would mark 10 years since adoption of 2008 SNA

- Stock take of country practices found that 10 years on, many member states have not yet introduced the 2008 SNA, have old benchmarks, or otherwise fall short of the minimum required standards

- AEG agreed to establish a Implementation Taskforce reporting through to the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on the National Accounts (ISWGNA), and ultimately the UN Statistical Commission, to address these issues

ISWGNA Implementation Taskforce

- Implementation taskforce will be in addition to those formed to progress the research agenda, this will help balance the focus of ISWGNA attention on both research & implementation issues

- Taskforce will formally report through to ISWGNA (and ultimately UNSC). And will engage with AEG for advice and feedback

- Have held discussions with ISWGNA members and are currently developing a Terms of Reference and work program

Potential Elements of the work program

1. Develop an 'implementation toolbox', a discoverable and accessible set of (already existing) tools including:

- Handbooks and manuals, guidance notes etc.
- Training material, courses and timetables
- Compilation systems (including assessment of in what circumstances the systems may be most appropriate)
- Compilation environments e.g. supported cloud environments (including assessment of in what circumstances the environments may be most appropriate)

We would encourage a 'creative commons' approach to sharing tools which taskforce members have already developed.

Potential Elements of the work program

2. Identify missing 'tools' and cooperate to fill these gaps. Develop practical tools which are pragmatically targeted towards the least developed, the island, and the fragile states. Ideas suggested include:

- making use of already available data (tax, customs, tourist numbers etc.) rather than on the establishment of new surveys
- developed advice on a 'minimum viable set' of source data required to produce fit for purpose benchmarks?
- is there a need for advice on 'c' of 'd' methods to be used when best practice is not possible?

Potential Elements of the work program

3. Develop, test and share new ways of working in capacity development. How can we use concepts of 'just enough design' and 'iteration' to increase the pace of development. Ideas suggested include:

- making use of cloud based storage to facilitate sharing of data between participants, and to share results and feedback
- use of 'sprints' and 'hacks' to develop immediate solutions which can later be iterated on and improved, rather than aiming to produce the ideal with the first attempt
- producing 'quick wins' to demonstrate the utility of statistics/statistical offices and, at a minimum, maintain the current level of resources.

Potential Elements of the work program

4. Assess the appetite for members of the taskforce to participate in joint capacity development programs in specifically targeted regions of the world.

- ❑ Regions that may be targeted with new approaches (based on the results of the ISWGNA stock-take) include: Africa, West Asia, Caribbean, and the Pacific
- ❑ Would seek to leverage already existing programs in working with regions, as such cooperation and engagement with regional commissions, regional multilateral development banks and other regional agencies will be essential