Friends of the Chair (FOC) Group on Economic Statistics Work Plan 2020

Fourth Meeting of the Friends of the Chair Group on Economic Statistics

29 and 30 June

United Nations, Virtual meeting

Greg Peterson, Assistant Chief Statistician, Economic Statistics

Statistics Canada

FOC Group – Expected realized benefits for system of economic statistics

Reduced burden and duplication of efforts for NSOs and International organizations through co-investments and sharing of experiences

Effective coordination, communication and networking between statistical groups and alignment of terminology, working methods, mandates and governance

Enhanced responsiveness of the economic statistics system to keep pace with the fast-changing environment

New agile and interative approaches and working arrangements scalable across the socio-economic-environmental statistics ecosystem

New engagement and data strategies with a broader set of stakeholders (policy makers, technology partners, data providers, academics)

Friends of the Chair Group on Economic Statistics: Work Plan for 2020

- **Description of current state and transition to future state of the system – use of infographics**

- **Overarching principles for the future state:**
  - **Streamlined country-led structure**
  - **Broadened membership**
  - **Filling gaps of missing groups (ex. New committee – measurement of the economy-society nexus)**

- **Statistical groups are requested to revise/revisit their ToR**

Creating networks

- **COVID 19 Use case**

- **Documention of lessons learned from the impact of COVID19 on economic statistics domain of national, regional and international statistical system**

- **Consultation with NSOs, Committees of the economic statistics domain, including UN Regional Commissions, Eurostat, OECD, and IMF, and other stakeholders**
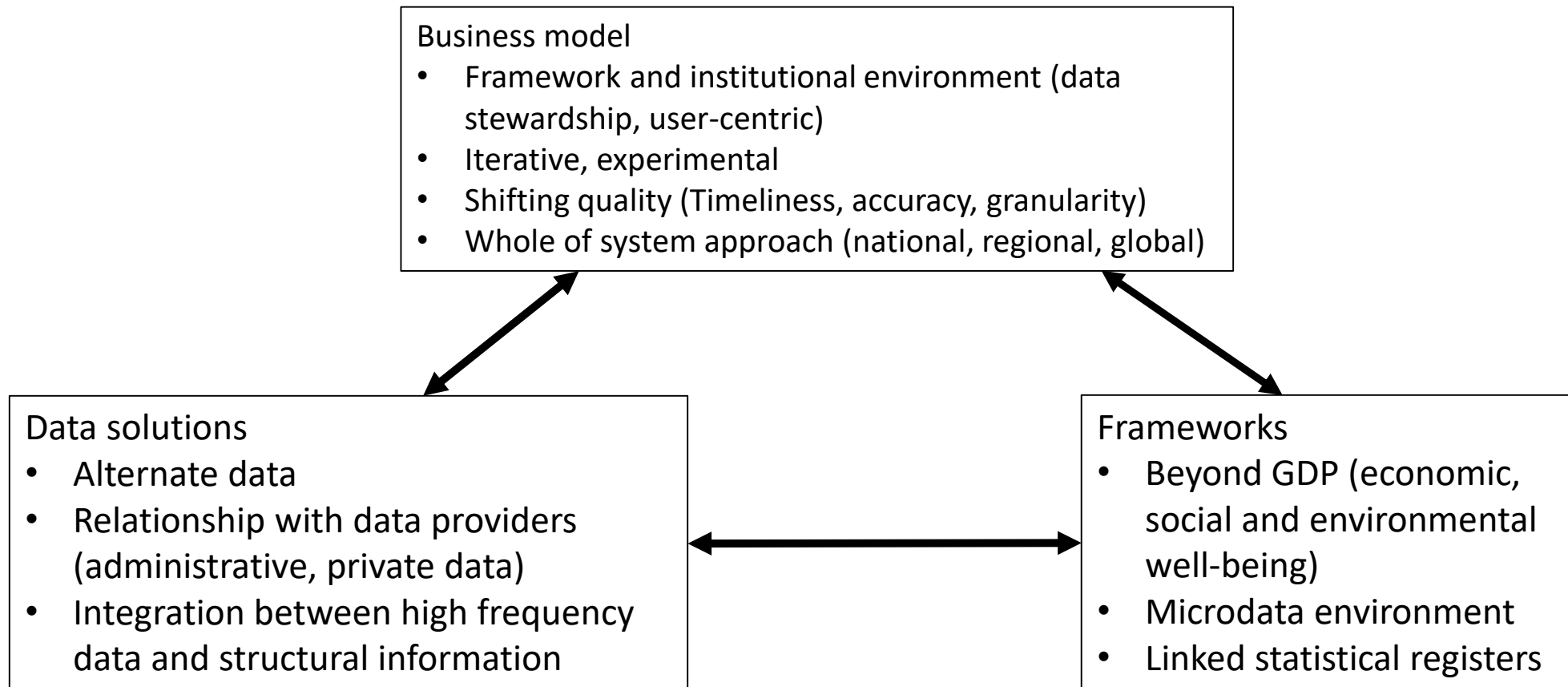
Engage broadly

- **Mobilization of the power of networking among the statistical groups**

- **Improved coordination, communication, and alignment of programs of work between statistical groups**

Documen-ting the system

Challenging the system

- **Strategies to increase the communication, engagement and co-investment within the statistical community and a broad set of stakeholders, policy makers, technology partners and academics**

Documenting the systems

Business model
- Framework and institutional environment (data stewardship, user-centric)
- Iterative, experimental
- Shifting quality (Timeliness, accuracy, granularity)
- Whole of system approach (national, regional, global)

Data solutions
- Alternate data
- Relationship with data providers (administrative, private data)
- Integration between high frequency data and structural information

Frameworks
- Beyond GDP (economic, social and environmental well-being)
- Microdata environment
- Linked statistical registers

Create Networks

➢ **Network with economic statistics statisticians**

➢ Include groups from the environmental and sociodemographic domain and outside the UN system

    ➢ Improve coordination, communication and alignment without adding any additional governance groups or hierarchies

➢ **New approaches / working arrangements**

    ➢ Better use of technology for communication

    ➢ Seek co-investment arrangements (global, regional, national)

    ➢ Promote wider experimentation and testing to support statistical research

    ➢ More iterative approach to producing outputs

    ➢ Open membership to a wider array of institutions

    ➢ Take a capacity-building perspective in their work

    ➢ Involve developed and developing countries

➢ **Support sharing of best practices and experimentation results**

Challenge the system

➢ **Pilot new agile approaches**

➢ **Solve real-world measurement problems**

  ➢ **Use case: Impact of COVID 19 crisis on national, regional and international statistical system**

➢ **Outputs:**

  ➢ **Broad consultation of economic statistical system of members countries, and regional and international agencies**

  ➢ **Report on lessons learned through sharing of best practices**

  ➢ **Assessment of the new working methods and networking of statistical groups**

Engage Broadly

- **Build engagement with a broader set of stakeholders including users, technology partners, data providers, and academics**
  - Critical for the relevance and responsiveness of the economic statistics system
  - Can include consultation at the regional level through webinars on the future of economic statistics, etc.

- **Proposed UN Global Forum on Economic Statistics**
  - Recurring events
  - High-level users, partners and producers of economic statistics from different regions of the world
  - Focus on user needs from the perspective of economic growth as well as its environmental and social impacts including issues of technology, inequality, urbanisation, environmental degradation and climate change, and demographic shifts