

Friends of the Chair (FOC) Group on Economic Statistics

Towards a Final Report

Meeting #5

November 3, 2020

Starting the journey



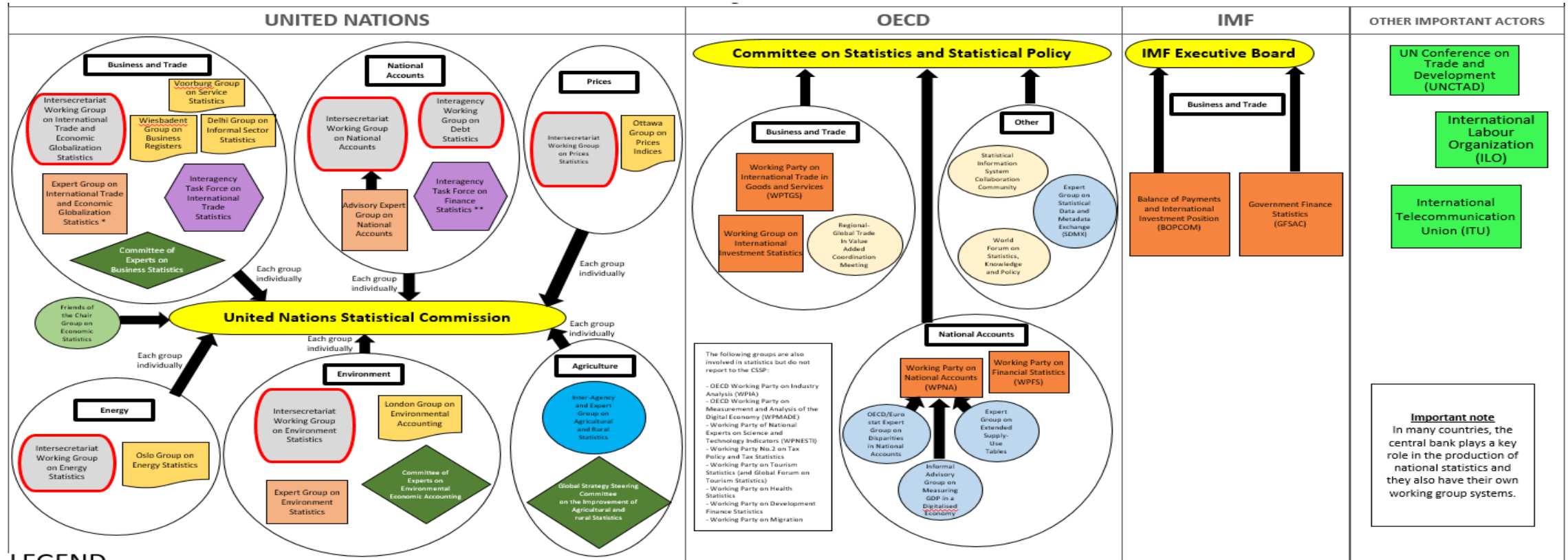
GLOBAL CONSULTATIONS

REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS AND CONSULTATIONS WITH THE NETWORK OF STATISTICAL GROUPS WERE UNDERTAKEN IN THE FALL OF 2019 TO TAKE STOCK ON OVERALL EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SYSTEM OF ECONOMIC STATISTICS.



- **THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT ON THE MOST IMPORTANT PRIORITY AREAS**
- **THE GOVERNANCE SYSTEM SEEN NOT TO BE BROKEN; NEED FOR IMPROVEMENT IN TERMS OF COORDINATION, COMMUNICATION AND RESPONSIVENESS**
- **SYSTEM IS REACTIVE AND SLOW IN ADJUSTING TO USER DEMAND; PRACTICAL AND AGILE APPROACH PREFERRED**
- **CONSENSUS ON THE NEEDS TO PRODUCE MORE GRANULAR DATA; INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT THAT NEED ACROSS METHODS, TOOLS AND STANDARDS**
- **CAPACITY BUILDING AND SUPPORT ARE VITAL TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

Mapping out the system highlighted complexities



LEGEND

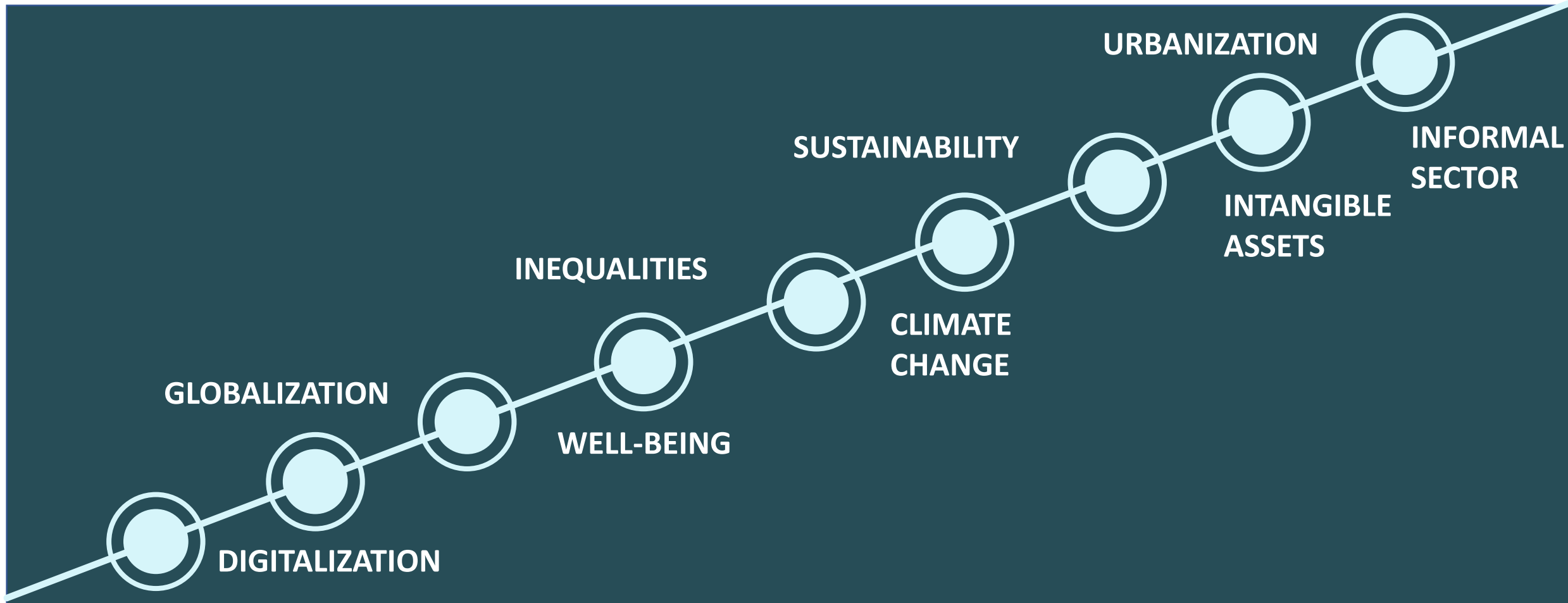
- ↑ Official reporting mechanism
- * To be dissolved when handbook is completed
- ** On hold pending success of new structure and migration of programme of work
- ◻ Intersecretariat, not country-led, UN and non-UN organizations are members

Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

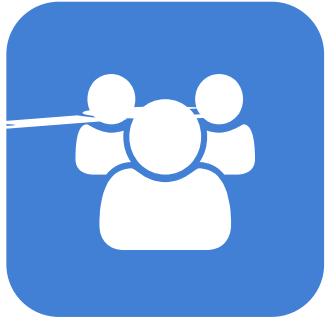
Standards and Classification

Quality Assurance

Priority areas were identified



FOC Group – Expected outcomes for the system of economic statistics



Better collaboration and networking between NSOs and users to strengthen analytical and data management capabilities enabled through the exchange and sharing of knowledge, governance, partnerships, and technology



Global statistical infrastructure and data solutions provide better national data solutions to produce statistics through partnerships with academia and private sector



Better working methods and aligned governance arrangements to operate as a coherent, collaborative, organization that is inclusive of the different actors the system



The system of economic statistics is responsive to meet our fast-evolving economies and the rapidly changing information demands of policy makers

Networking: Collaboration and user consultation

- To continuously review and validate the global research agenda and its priorities for the entire system of economic statistics.
- To establish direct communication channels and mechanisms; to jointly work on innovative global data solutions at scale
- To adopt a data steward role in addition to data producers and actively partner with academia and data owners in the public and private sectors.






Transforming and
challenging:
Statistical
infrastructure
and operations,
and data
solutions

- To prioritize global use cases for co-investment and co-development in
 - a) common data acquisition and access;
 - b) data sharing;
 - c) common data infrastructure and common resources; and
 - d) common technological solutions
- To implement specific and targeted use cases, possibly starting with use of data science and engineering techniques for development of real-time measures
- To leverage existing platforms and promote global data solutions through better collaboration between statistical and academic community and private sector of the developed countries and developing countries.

Enabling: Institutional arrangements and governance

- To continue to align existing working methods and terminology of Committees of Experts
- To establish a group that facilitates the networking, coordination and communication between the different actors in the system of economic statistics and promotes global partnerships with academia and the private sector for a responsive system of economic statistics that functions efficiently in response to changing user demands
- To create group with the mandate to coordinate and manage the articulation of a new manual with the accounts and tables for the interrelationship between the society and the economy.



Experimenting,
integrating and
documenting:
Statistical
framework and
methods

- To adopt strategies for the continuous and iterative update of global statistical standards
- To pursue a broader integration framework (economy, environment, society) with the objective to arrive at an overarching accounting framework or “system of systems”



Pre-briefs indicated most were positive

87% had a generally positive view of the recommendations; 13% had a neutral or negative view

39% expressed concerns between disparities of ability between developing and developed countries

35% would like to see more detail (particularly an implementation plan)

26% did not see the need for additional committees

9% expressed concerns of over-reach (recommendations went too far)

9% thought the recommendations lacked ambition (could have gone further)

Drafting a Final Report

- Content
 - Goals of the FOC Group
 - Findings (based on consultations, mapping of the system)
 - Framework
 - Recommendations
 - Next steps

