



Business Statistics and Well Being and Sustainability

Ivo Havinga and Michael Smedes
Assistant Director on Economic Statistics
United Nations Statistics Division

First Meeting of the UN Committee of Experts on Business Statistics

INEGI, Mexico City, Mexico
23-25 May 2018



Considerations for this thematic area:

- Benchmark with macroeconomic accounts (SNA (SUT and institutional sector accounts), sectoral accounts of SEEA (water, energy, emissions, material flow) through micro-macro links using of statistical units in SBR – trader/non-trader, GVC related, SME, location, etc.
- Take perspective of the economy - the economy contribution to wellbeing rather trying to measure wellbeing itself
- Take household focus linking jobs to households; inclusive growth through disaggregation by location, formal/informal sector, gender, age etc.
- Link to externalities – there is always going to be important measure outside of the SNA, need to link through to important well being and quality of life (OECD framework) and environmental issues (SEEA approach)



Possible Domains:

- A. Micro links – newest field of measure, enormous potential enabled by the ‘data revolution’, need to link micro/macro fields using common concepts, classifications etc, need to use existing data for both purposes
- Households – distributions work well underway on income, consumption and wealth through links with jobs; Canberra group on household income stats. etc.
 - Business and its dynamics – rapidly growing area of GVC research, little current international thinking on standards or links to existing SNA framework



Possible Domains:

B. Labour – further articulation of the labour accounts

- Jobs, wages and decent work – the central household experience in the economy, largely missing from the SNA
- Human capital – has been fairly well articulated and worked through, but struggled to find a real policy use or user community at the time; time to try again?



Possible Domains:

Non-market producers

- Government – under pressure to deliver the services expected by citizens; pressures on budgets through aging population, technology advances, etc;
- Other Sectors – non-profits, third sector, cooperatives etc; are they visible? Are they appropriately measured?



Externalities

- Environment – Impact of business and business dynamics on use of natural resources.
Link to SEEA
- Time-use: Work life balance, leisure, commute, household production etc. – link business statistics with household satellite accounts? anything to be done?



Thank you!

[@un.org](mailto:un.org)