



# **Overview of the Implementation of National Accounts at Global Level**

United Nations Statistics Division

National Accounts Seminar for Latin America and the Caribbean:  
Regional Implementation of the National Accounts System and the Satellite Accounts  
1-3 December 2015  
Santiago, Chile



1. Overview of the status of implementation of the 2008 SNA at global and regional level
2. Global implementation programme of the 2008 SNA
3. Ongoing discussion on the SNA research agenda



# Part 1.

## Overview of the implementation of the 2008 SNA at global and regional level



The implementation of the 2008 SNA is assessed in terms of:

Scope

Detail

Quality

Compliance



- For monitoring the implementation of the 1993 SNA the ISWGNA developed a set of six milestones to assess the **scope** of accounts that are compiled by countries.
- These milestones were later supplemented by three data sets describing (a) minimum set of accounts that need to be compiled; (b) a recommended set of accounts; and (c) a desired set of accounts.
- The **quality** of the national accounts dimension was assessed using the IMF quality assessment framework
- To assess the **compliance** with major 1993 SNA concepts the ISWGNA developed a set of questions.



# Scope and Compliance Measures for the 2008 SNA

United Nations Statistics Division

- The elements of the scope and compliance measures used for the 1993 SNA were deemed to be adequate to also assess the scope and compliance for the 2008 SNA.
- However, the need for more timely information to facilitate appropriate policy responses highlights the importance to include also the compilation of quarterly national accounts, which require some adjustments to the scope measure as reflected by the required data set measure.
- The **compliance questionnaire** was adjusted to reflect the 2008 SNA concepts for determining the conceptual adherence to the 2008 SNA.



# Global status of annual reporting

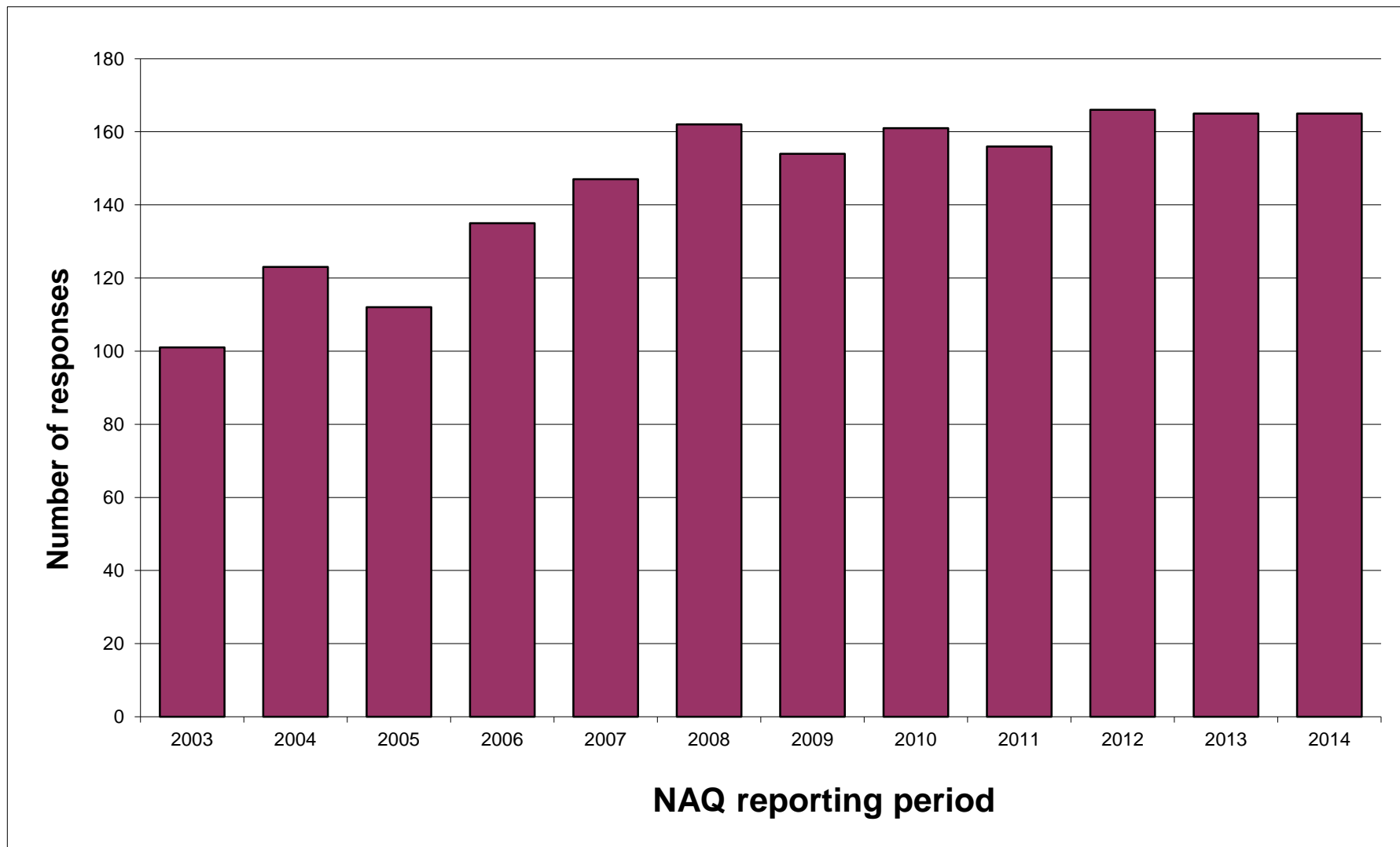
United Nations Statistics Division

- Almost all countries are reporting annual national accounts to UNSD, many countries with a time lag of more than one year.
- Most countries currently compliant with the 1993 SNA and ISIC Rev. 3.1, with some countries using the 1968 SNA .
- Many countries are not able to submit the minimum requirement data set (as defined by the UNSC) to the UNSD.



# Number of countries reporting annually for the reporting period 2003 to 2014

United Nations Statistics Division







# Number of countries reporting annually and data availability

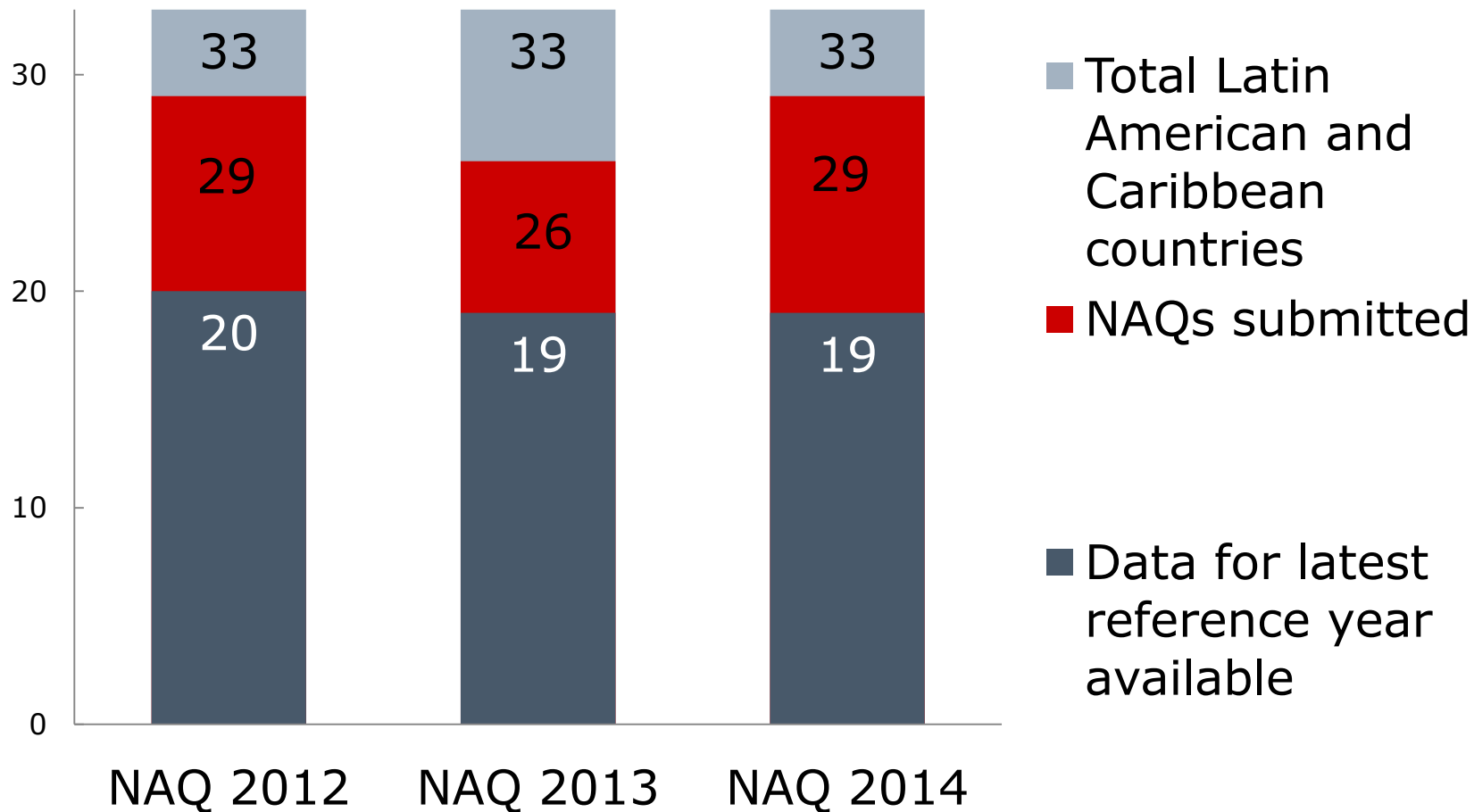
United Nations Statistics Division

	Total number of countries	Number of countries that replied to the UN-NAQ			
		At least once between 2010-2014	NAQ 2013	NAQ 2014	2014 data available
UN Member States	193	183 (95%)	165	166	119 (62%)
Developed region	46	46 (100%)	45	45	40 (87%)
Developing region	147	137 (93%)	120	121	79 (54%)
Latin America	20	20 (100%)	19	20	15 (75%)
Caribbean	13	12 (92%)	7	9	4 (31%)



# Number of countries reporting annually and data availability

United Nations Statistics Division





# Number of countries compliant with the 1968, 1993 and 2008 SNA

United Nations Statistics Division

	Total number of countries	1968 SNA compliant	1993 SNA compliant	2008 SNA compliant
UN Member States	193	22	109	62
Developed region	46	-	7	37
Developing region	147	22	100	25
Latin America	20	2	13	5
Caribbean	13	1	11	1

- 62 Member States have implemented the 2008 SNA
- Some Member States have opted to introduce certain aspects of 2008 SNA in a gradual implementation of the 2008 SNA
- 12% of Member States still use 1968 SNA
- 83 Member States are implementing or partially implementing ISIC Rev. 4.



**Milestone 1.** GDP by Industry and Expenditure in current and volumes

Growth analysis

**Milestone 2.** GNI of Total Economy and Balance of Payments (current, capital and financial accounts) and GFS transaction accounts

Relations with the rest of the world (BoP) analysis

**Milestone 3.** For all institutional sectors: Production acc. For GG: Generation of income; allocation of primary income; secondary distribution of income, use of disposable income; capital and financial accounts

Productivity analysis and fiscal analysis

**Milestone 4.** For all institutional sectors: generation of income, allocation of primary income; secondary distribution of income, use of disposable income; capital and financial accounts

Income distribution analysis



## **Milestone 5.** Production, income and use accounts, capital accounts and financial accounts for institutional sectors

Growth analysis, BOP analysis, productivity analysis, fiscal, income distribution analysis and investment-financing analysis

## **Milestone 6.** All transaction and flows accounts plus balance sheets

Financing-debt analysis (Flow of funds) and vulnerability analysis (currency mismatches, maturity mismatches (roll-over of debt), capital structure (equity vs debt), solvency (assets over liabilities)



The detail of National Accounts is measured in term of Minimum Required Data Set (MRDS)

MRDS covers:

**Milestone 1.** GDP by Industry and Expenditure in current and constant prices

**Milestone 2.** GNI of Total Economy and Balance of Payments (current, capital and financial accounts) and GFS transaction accounts

**Milestone 3.** For all institutional sectors: Production acc.  
For GG: Generation of income; allocation of primary income; secondary distribution of income, use of disposable income; capital and financial accounts

**Milestone 4.** For all institutional sectors: generation of income, allocation of primary income; secondary distribution of income, use of disposable income; capital and financial accounts

Minimum required macroeconomic data set, annual institutional sector accounts up to net lending and also quarterly GDP and quarterly BoP



# National Accounts Questionnaire

United Nations Statistics Division

Tables	MRDS
Table 1.1 – 1.3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- GDP by expenditure at current/constant prices</li><li>- Relations among product, income, savings and net lending aggregates at current prices</li></ul>	√
Table 2.1 – 2.3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Value added by industries at current/constant prices</li><li>- Output, GVA and fixed assets by industries at current prices</li></ul>	√ √
Table 3.1 – 3.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- GFCE by function at current prices</li><li>- Individual CE of HH, NPISHs, and GG at current prices</li></ul>	
Table 4.1 – 4.9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Total Economy (S.1) at current prices</li><li>- Rest of the world (S.2) at current prices</li><li>- Non-financial Corporations (S.11) at current prices</li><li>- ...</li></ul>	√ √
Table 5.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Cross classification of Gross value added by industries and institutional sectors at current prices</li></ul>	



# Number of countries submitting the tables of the MRDS

United Nations Statistics Division

		GDPe C 1.1	GDPe K 1.2	GDPp C 2.1(2.4)	GDPp K 2.2(2.5)	GDPp detail 2.3(2.6)	IEA Total 1.3(4.1)	IEA RoW 4.2
UN Member States	<b>193</b>	176	155	185	180	144	164	110
Developed region	<b>46</b>	45	44	46	45	45	43	38
Developing region	<b>147</b>	131	111	139	135	99	118	72
Latin America	<b>20</b>	20	18	20	20	19	20	16
Caribbean	<b>13</b>	12	6	12	12	11	11	4





# Scope of National Accounts Statistics

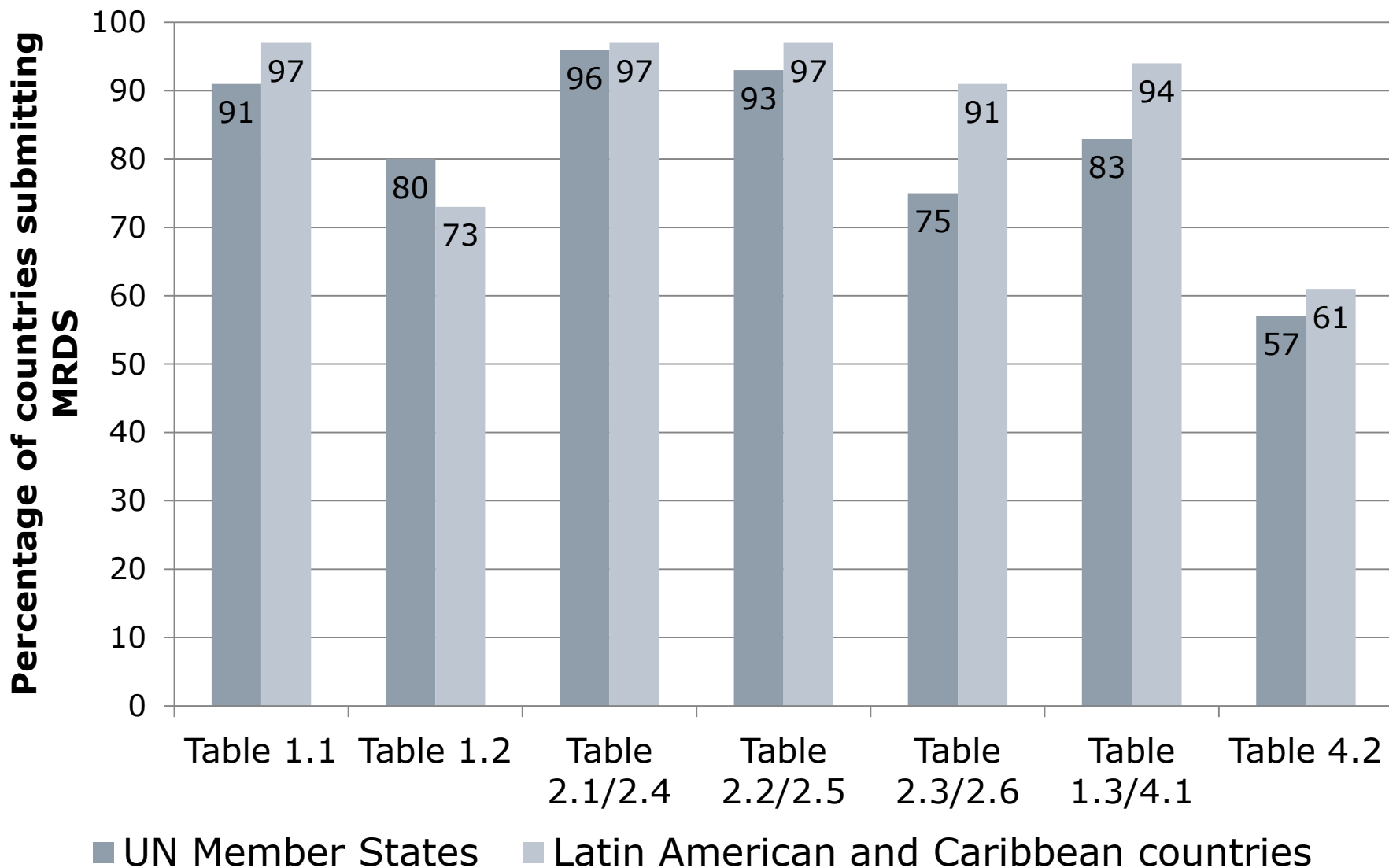
United Nations Statistics Division

	Total number of countries	MRDS		Milestone Level	
		6 or more tables	7 tables	1 or higher	2
UN Member States	<b>193</b>	131 (68%)	101 (52%)	176 (91%)	157 (81%)
Developed region	<b>46</b>	42 (91%)	37 (80%)	45 (98%)	43 (93%)
Developing region	<b>147</b>	89 (61%)	64 (44%)	131 (89%)	114 (78%)
Latin America	<b>20</b>	19 (95%)	15 (75%)	20 (100%)	20 (100%)
Caribbean	<b>13</b>	5 (38%)	3 (23%)	12 (92%)	11 (85%)



# Per cent countries submitting the MRDS

United Nations Statistics Division





# Part 2.

## 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
- Coordination, monitoring and reporting
- Improving statistical systems



This is operationalized through 4 elements:

- (a) **A strategic planning framework** - the use of priority-setting national strategies for the development of statistics or similar national plans
- (b) **Information structure** based on the integrated economic statistics approach (standards, statistical production process, institutional arrangements) and internationally agreed scope (MRDS) and compliance for the national accounts and supporting economic statistics
- (c) **Modalities of statistical capacity-building**: training and technical cooperation, publication of manuals and handbooks, research and advocacy
- (d) **Stages of implementation** leading to the changeover to the 2008 SNA: Review, Adaptation and Application



## Global Strategic plan

Global strategy

## Regional plan

Plans are in line with global strategy

## National Plan

e.g. NSDS



- Integrated statistical systems
- Modernization of statistical systems
- Internationally agreed scope (Milestones), detail (MRDS), quality (DQAF) and compliance of the National Accounts



- Scope of the statistics programme goes beyond the production of **national accounts** to also cover the statistical production process of basic statistics and to aspects of the institutional environment
- It is, thus, based on an **integrated statistics approach** which
  - Produces statistics that present a consistent and coherent picture of economic activities for policy, business and other analytical uses
  - Uses common concepts, definitions, estimation methods and data sources for statistical reconciliation
  - Moves away from a narrow stove-pipe statistical production model to cross-functional holistic model



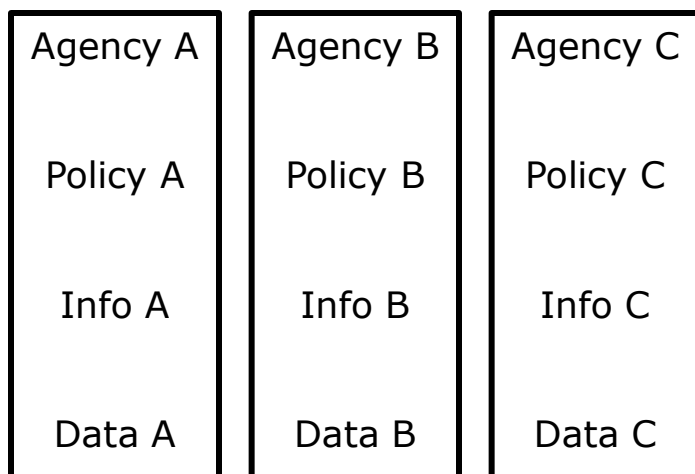


## Building blocks

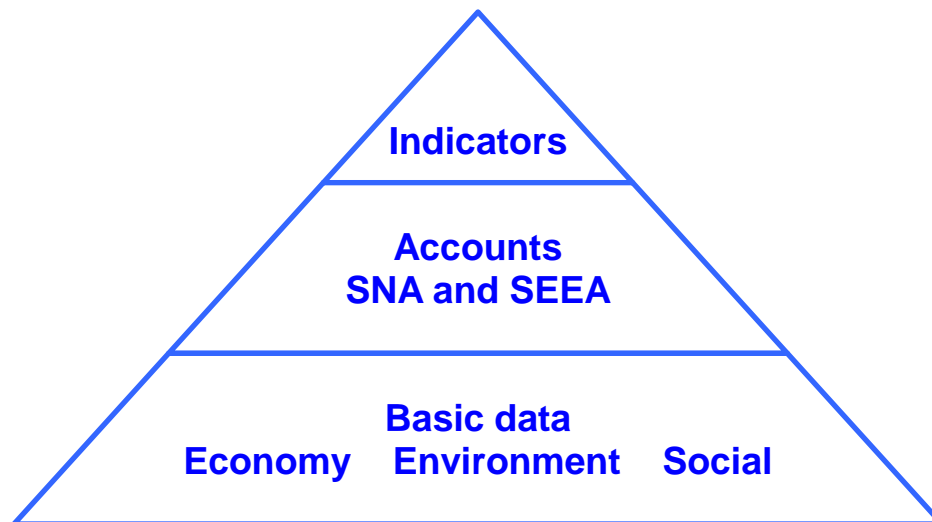
- **Common conceptual framework** provided by the SNA
- **Institutional arrangements** (legislative, organizational, budgetary, managerial and customer relationship arrangements) further support the environment for integration
- **Statistical production process** as an integrated production chain from the collection of basic data to the dissemination of statistics



## Silo approach



## Integrated statistics



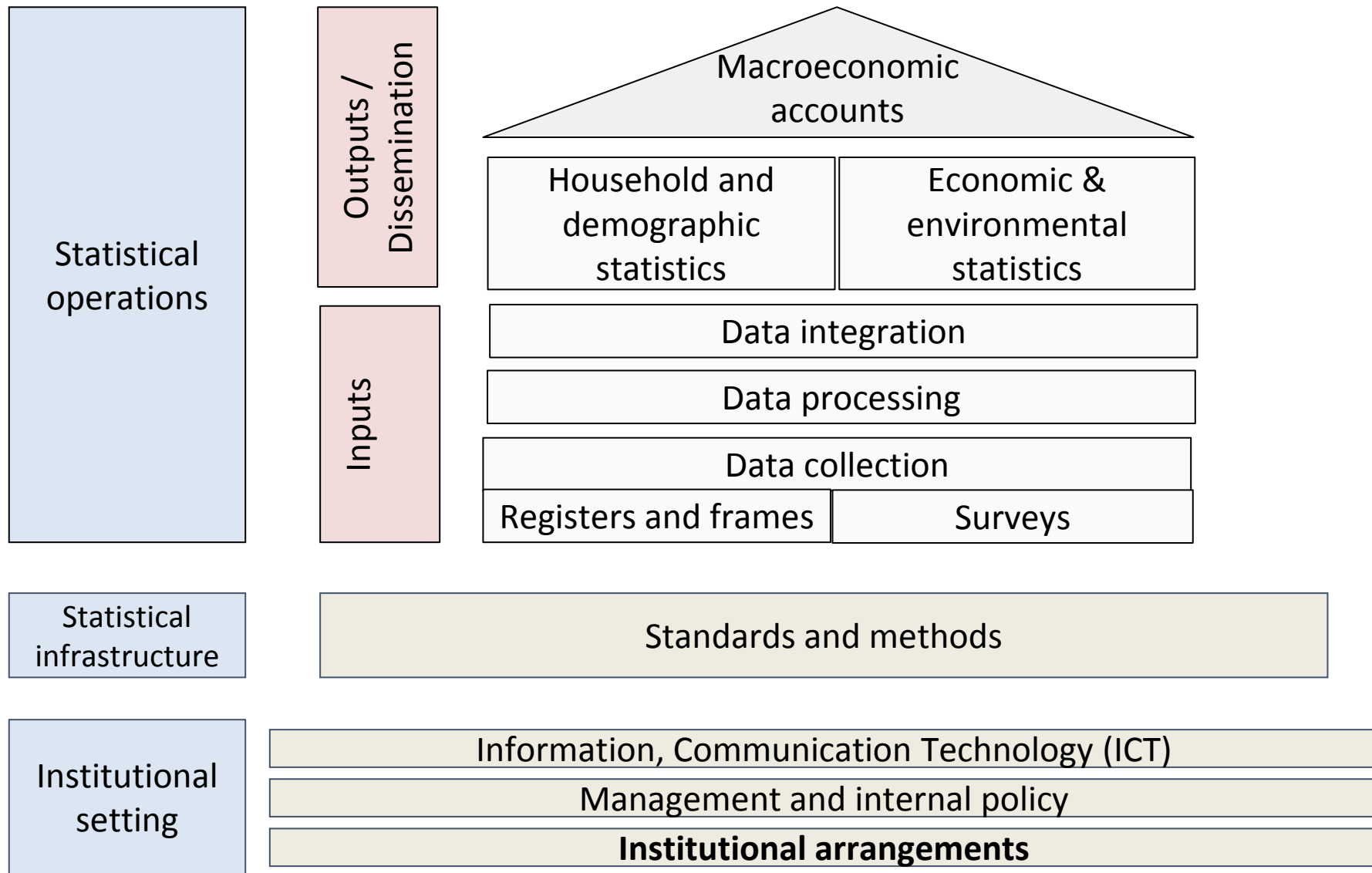
## Accounts to integrate statistics:

- Linking policy needs and statistics
- Understanding the institutional arrangements
- Integrated statistical production process/chain and services
- Consistency between basic data, accounts and tables and indicators



# Integrated statistics approach

United Nations Statistics Division





# Modalities of statistical capacity-building

United Nations Statistics Division

Training and  
technical  
cooperation

Publication of  
manuals and  
handbooks

Research

Advocacy



## Training workshops in cooperation with regional commissions

- Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Financial Services and Business Register (ESCWA, Nov 2015)
- Measuring the Informal Sector and the Non-Observed Economy October (SIAP, Oct 2015)
- Regional Course on 2008 SNA (Special Topics): Improving Exhaustiveness of GDP Coverage (SIAP, Aug 2015)
- Compilation of Quarterly National Accounts for Economic Cooperation Organization Member Countries (Mar 2015)

Development of e-learning material on the SNA



- Annual meetings on SNA with regional Commissions
  - ECLAC
  - ESCAP
  - ESCWA
  - ECA

## Important events to:

Assess progress in the implementation of the regional work plan

Discuss country practices and innovations available to overcome the implementation issues

Share country experiences

Bring the discussions held at global level (e.g. AEG on NA, ISWGNA, etc.) and collect the region perspectives

Facilitate modernization of statistical systems



To facilitate the implementation of the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics

- Handbook on Supply and Use tables and Input Output tables
- Handbook on Backcasting in National Accounts
- Handbook on Economic Tendency Surveys
- Handbook on Cyclical Composite Indicators
- Handbook on Rapid Estimates
- Handbook on Data Template and metadata for short-term statistics
- Handbook on a System of Extended International and Global Accounts (SEIGA)
- Satellite Accounts
  - ◻ Handbook on Non-profit Institutions
  - ◻ Handbook on Cultural Satellite Accounts
  - ◻ Etc. (aviation accounts)



- Information on the publications under development is available online at:

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/pubsdvp.asp>

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) website. The page is titled "Handbooks under Development" and lists several handbooks in progress. The browser's address bar shows the URL [unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/pubsdvp.asp](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/pubsdvp.asp). The website's navigation menu includes Home, SNA, ESWONA, Knowledge Base, Data, Technical Cooperation, and Publications. The breadcrumb trail indicates the current location: "You are here: ESWONA >> Implementation >> UNSD Activities".

**Handbooks under Development**

**Handbook on input-output compilation**  
The handbook was issued in 1999 (available [here](#)) and is being revised mainly to incorporate the changes in the international standards like the 2008 SNA and the BPM 6, extend the scope of the previous handbook, provide practical guidance for countries with less developed statistical systems, and provide greater links and integration of the I-O family of products including greater focus on the Environmental Accounts/Physical Tables. An [ad-hoc board](#) was established to undertake the revision of the handbook.

**Handbook on non-profit institutions in the SNA**  
The handbook was issued in 2003 (available [here](#)) and is being revised mainly to incorporate changes in the underlying international economic accounting standards (notably the 2008 SNA) and classifications (ISIC Rev 4), and the experiences/country practices in implementing the UN NP Handbook. The UNSD has again enlisted the Center for Civil Society Studies at Johns Hopkins University to assist it in this revision. This task will be accomplished by identifying how these new developments will affect each individual chapter and then summarizing what the revised handbook would look like as a result.

**Handbook on data template and metadata for short-term statistics**  
The handbook will elaborate methodological descriptions and the use of individual short-term economic indicators. It will explain the statistical and analytical properties of short-term economic indicators, why they are relevant in explaining economic activity and how they relate to an integrated set of short-term economic statistics of quarterly national accounts and component data. The guide is intended to serve both the compiler and the user of the indicators. It will contain useful links to reference material offering more in-depth expertise.

**Handbook on Economic Tendency Surveys**  
The handbook provides guidance on the process of setting up tendency survey operations, data processing, analysis and dissemination of survey results. The handbook also guides users on the applications of tendency surveys for business cycle analysis and macroeconomic surveillance. It is intended to serve also the needs of analytical users by making them aware of the statistical methods and techniques that are employed in tendency surveys and associated with composite tendency indicators. The pre-edit draft handbook is now [available](#). A [global consultation](#) on the Handbook took place in 2014 with countries and international/regional organizations.

**Handbook on composite indicators**  
The handbook seeks to provide statistical guidance on harmonized principles for application in the formulation of cyclical composite indicators and standards for their compilation and presentation. The handbook is expected to be useful not only to those agencies of national statistical systems compiling or aspiring to compile cyclical composite indicators but also to those statistical agencies that are collecting short-term economic statistics and constructing data sets, which are used as component data for the construction of composite indicators. The handbook is also expected to be equally relevant for official statisticians in developing countries.

**Handbook on rapid estimates**  
The handbook is intended to assist compilers in producing rapid estimates of key short-term macroeconomic indicators in a comparable manner, using best international practices. It is also intended to assist countries that plan to set up a more comprehensive system of estimates of key macroeconomic indicators not only by providing the methodological foundations for the compilation of rapid estimates, but also by offering practical guidance on individual steps and elements of the compilation process.





- Information on completed publications is available online at:

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/pubsDB.asp?pType=2>

The screenshot displays the 'National Accounts Publications' page on the UN Statistics Division website. The page is titled 'National Accounts Publications' and features a navigation menu with tabs for 'All Publications', 'International Recommendations', 'Handbooks', 'Compilation Guides', and 'Data Publications'. The 'Handbooks' tab is selected, and the page shows a list of publications sorted by release year (starting with the latest) and in alphabetical order. The first three publications listed are:

- Financial Production, Flows and Stocks in the System of National Accounts**  
Released: 2014  
Description: The Handbook provides practical guidance in the calculation and allocation of the production of various types of financial services and issues related to the compilation of the financial account and balance sheets by institutional sector in the context of from-whom-to-whom relationships.  
PDF version: [English](#)
- Guidelines on Integrated Economic Statistics**  
Released: 2013  
Description: The Guidelines on Integrated Economic Statistics provide practical guidance on advancing consistency, coherence and reconciliation of statistical information through the application of the methodology of integrated economic statistics using the System of National Accounts 2008 as the overarching conceptual framework. The Guidelines also provide case studies and other practical material to share experiences in implementing an integrated statistical production approach in national statistical systems.  
PDF version: [#2](#) [English](#) [Français](#) [Русский](#)
- Handbook of National Accounting: National Accounts - A Practical Introduction**  
Released: 2004  
Description: Basic concepts and structures of the System of National Accounts (SNA) are provided in this handbook designed to familiarize economists and policy makers with national accounts. This publication will serve as a useful guide to reading the SNA.  
PDF version: [#1](#) [#2](#) [English](#) [français](#) [Русский](#) [Español](#)



Advance the research agenda to provide further guidance on

- Practical issues encountered in the implementation of the 2008 SNA
- Methodological improvements to better measure existing and emerging economic realities

**ISWGNA** revise and update the SNA and develop supporting normative international statistical standards and other methodological documents on national accounts and supporting statistics

**Advisory Expert Group (AEG)** on National Accounts to resolve issues on the research agenda of the SNA and to review documents and tools for the SNA implementation.



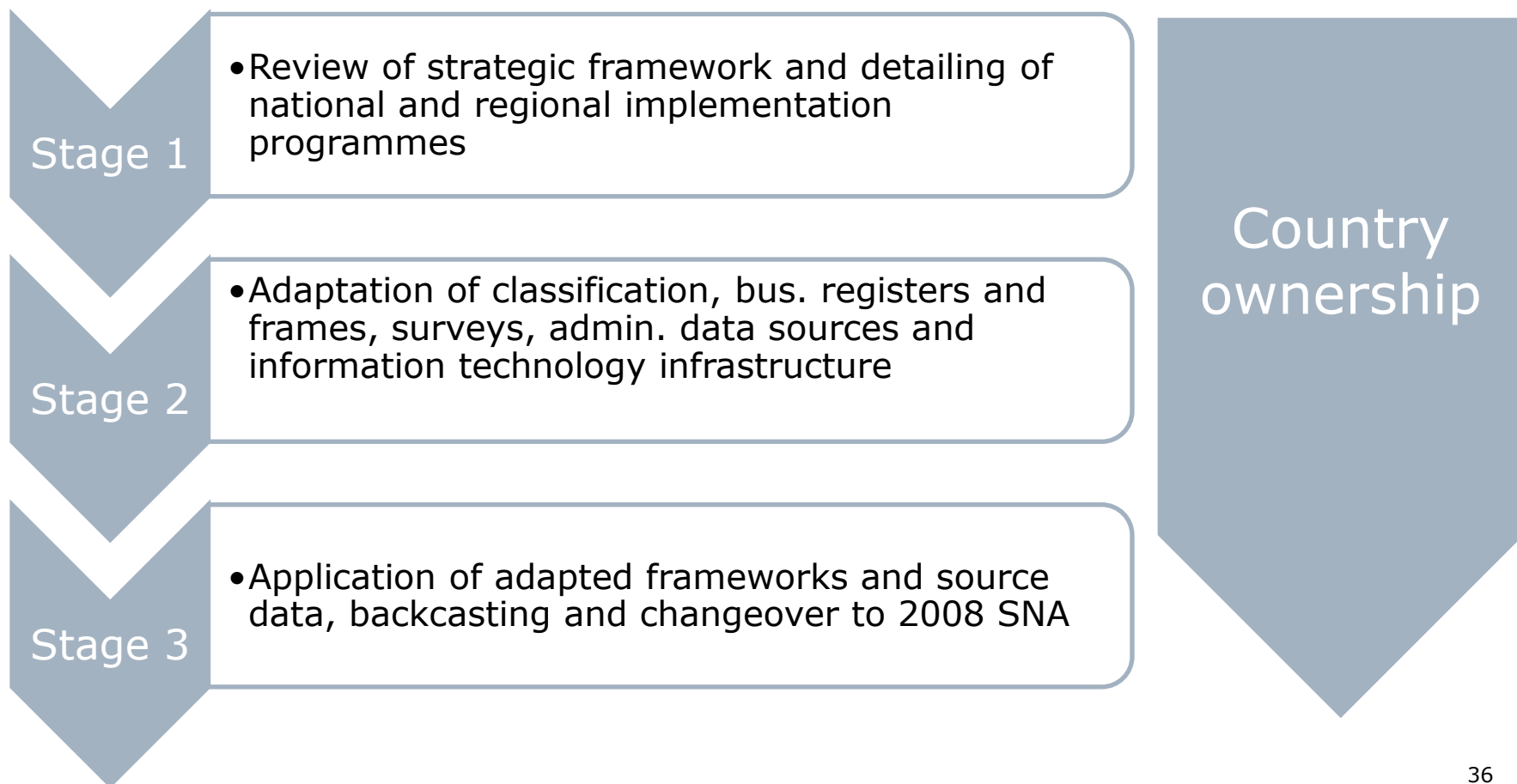
To support an ongoing dialogue among statistical producers, the various levels of government, business sector, the academic community, and the general public about

- user needs for official statistics and the progress in meeting those needs

- the role of official statistics in evidenced based decision and policy making



## Stages of implementation leading to the changeover to the 2008 SNA.





# Part 3. Ongoing discussion on the SNA research agenda



- Since the finalisation of the 2008 SNA, the work on the SNA research agenda focussed on issues related to practical implementation, clarifications and interpretation of the 2008 SNA
- Issues Under Discussion are available on: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/UnderDiscussion.asp>
- They are categorized as:

New

In  
progress

Resolved



You are here: ISWGNA >> Research Agenda

### Issues Under Discussion

Updated - March 2015.

The table presents issues that have been considered so far by the ISWGNA and AEG. They are organized in three categories according to the status of the discussion as follow: Resolved, In progress and New issues.

Holding gains and losses in the estimates of investment income	New issue
Treatment of the output of international financial institutions	New issue
Valuation of natural resources	New issue
Treatment of statistical units in supply and use tables and institutional sector accounts	New issue
Capital income of insurer's own funds	New issue
Capital services of assets not contributing to production	New issue
Table on household retirement resources	In progress
Accounting for pension	In progress
Factoryless goods producers	In progress
FISIM recording	In progress
Treatment of land	Resolved
Global production	Resolved
Delineation of holding companies and head offices	Resolved
Research and development	Resolved
Deposit insurance and financial stability schemes	Resolved
Treatment of freight and insurance in the 2008 SNA	Resolved
Output of central banks	Resolved
Service lives of military weapons systems	Resolved
Definition of catastrophes in the context of measurement of non-life insurance	Resolved



## Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured

Further develop the conceptual arguments to either include or exclude credit default risk in the calculation of FISIM and volume measures of FISIM. In the case of excluding credit default risk, to develop methods and data that could support its possible exclusion in the future.

The long-term research agenda on FISIM include: (a) Further development of the “costs of funds” approach to determine the reference rate and of possible alternative approaches (vintage reference rate); (b) Consideration of the financial instruments and units scope of financial instruments and units of FISIM; (c) Connection between the recommendations on implementing FISIM and the definition of income.

## Table on household retirement resources

The AEG is reviewing the development of a table on household retirement resources which is intended to provide extensive and detailed information on the various household resources for retirement, including the scope of assets and cross border transactions.

Further work is required regarding the delineation of social assistance benefits and the possible inclusion of assets such as owner occupied dwellings.





## Treatment of the output of international financial institutions

The characterization and compilation of the output of international financial institutions and the use of that output by their member countries require elaboration under the current SNA guidelines, taking into consideration the cost of funds approach and the valuation at cost for the non-market part of output.

## Globalization

More evidence and practical experience from countries on the transactions of Factoryless Good Producers are needed in order to develop the guidance on their classification and treatment.



## Accounting for pensions

Further clarification is needed in the delineation and measurement of pension entitlements and the articulation of when to record the transactions, other flows and positions of defined benefit pension schemes in the core accounts in line with the 2008 SNA recommendations.

The nature of investment income (holding gains and losses) related to pension funds and investment funds need to be further investigated under the broader issue of the concept of income.



- Importance of strengthening basic economic statistics
- Importance of improving the national accounts in terms of scope, detail and quality
- Importance of an integrated approach in the statistical system
- Importance of coordinated efforts to implement the 2008 SNA at global, regional and national levels



Annual meetings - such as the National Accounts Seminar for Latin America and the Caribbean - are key to:

- share experiences in the implementation of the 2008 SNA at regional level
- further align work programmes national-regional-global levels
- contribute to the ongoing methodological discussion on the SNA
- ensure a coordinated 2008 SNA implementation strategy

UNSD can facilitate the bridge particularly between global and regional (and national)

ECLAC can facilitate the bridge particularly between national and regional (and global)



Thank you!