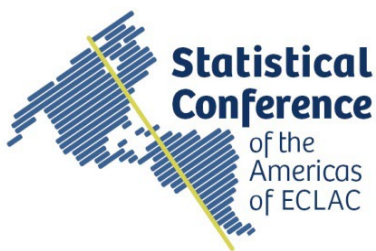




ECLAC



10 August 2022

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Twenty-first meeting of the Executive Committee of the  
Statistical Conference of the Americas of the  
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Santiago, 24–25 August 2022

## **BEYOND GDP: STATISTICAL CHALLENGES OF MEASURING DEVELOPMENT**

**Seminar within the framework of the twenty-first meeting of the Executive Committee  
of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission  
for Latin America and the Caribbean**

**Wednesday, 24 August 2022**

### **BACKGROUND**

GDP is a measure of a country's domestic production of goods and services. This indicator and the System of National Accounts (SNA) on which it is based are available in virtually all countries of the world and are similarly based on international standards. As a result, GDP is widely used to summarize countries' development, beyond the purpose for which it was designed.

However, GDP is an insufficient measure of development and does not adequately reflect essential factors such as environmental sustainability and biodiversity loss, inequalities in access to the benefits of economic growth, the quality of institutions and the prevalence of the rule of law.

In September 2021, the United Nations Secretary-General presented the report "Our Common Agenda", with his vision for the future of global cooperation and multilateralism. He calls for "new measures to complement GDP, so that people can gain a full understanding of the impacts of business activities and how we can and must do better to support people and our planet". The United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination has set out to discuss the development of metrics to measure progress beyond GDP, in support of the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the *Our Common Agenda* report. Its ongoing work considers two types of response to the challenges and limitations outlined above: on the one hand, support the improvements to the measurement of GDP and the update of the SNA and, on the other hand, identify a set of complementary indicators.

This seminar is a space for dialogue with the authorities of national statistical offices and other statistical institutions on the various statistical challenges related to the improvement of GDP measurement and the production of complementary indicators to account for economic, social and environmental development.

## PROGRAMME

<u>Moderator:</u>	Graciela Márquez, National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) of Mexico
2.30 – 2.35 p.m.	Opening and welcome
2.35 – 2.50 p.m.	Contribution of the United Nations system to progress beyond GDP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anu Peltola, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)</li> </ul>
2.50 – 3.05 p.m.	2025 update of the System of National Accounts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stefan Schweinfest, United Nations Statistics Division</li> </ul>
3.05 – 3.25 p.m.	Comments and questions
3.25 – 3.40 p.m.	Findings of the “beyond GDP” consultations of the Network of Economic Statisticians and the evolving Canadian data ecosystem: towards an integrated framework for well-being, cohesion and sustainability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greg Peterson, Statistics Canada and Co-Chair of the United Nations Network of Economic Statisticians</li> </ul>
3.40 – 3.55 p.m.	An agenda for the reconciliation of distributional and national accounts data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facundo Alvaredo, World Inequality Lab of the Paris School of Economics, Interdisciplinary Institute of Political Economy (IIEP) of the University of Buenos Aires and National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET) of Argentina</li> </ul>
3.55 – 4.10 p.m.	Comments and questions
4.10 – 4.30 p.m.	Short break
4.30 – 4.45 p.m.	Looking beyond GDP, from a gender perspective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lucía Scuro, Division for Gender Affairs of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)</li> <li>• Iliana Vaca-Trigo, United Nations Statistics Division</li> </ul>
4.45 – 5 p.m.	Beyond GDP: the contribution of environmental indicators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arturo Flores, National Polytechnic Institute, Mexico</li> </ul>
5.00 – 5.15 p.m.	Progress made by the Statistics Division on indicators complementary to GDP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rolando Ocampo, Statistics Division of ECLAC</li> </ul>
5.15 – 5.30 p.m.	Comments and questions
5.30 p.m.	Close