Eurostat’s tools to support National Accounts

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• “Essential SNA”
• “Short course” ISI 2011
• ERETES
• ECOTRIM
Essential SNA: Building the Basics
Objective and Target audience

The objective of the Handbook is *to support the implementation of the 2008 SNA in Africa, Caribbean and Pacific, Asia and Latin America and other countries.*

Especially relevant for:
- Least Developed Countries,
- Micro-states
- “Milestone 0”
- “First timers”
Essential SNA: Building the Basics
Key principles in the handbook

A. Compliance with SNA 2008
“Essential SNA: building the basics” will be a handbook prepared in fully compliance with SNA 2008

B. Orientation to countries’ needs
The handbook has been tested with target countries
Key problems that face less developed countries when trying to implement the SNA:

- Staffing (expertise, recruitment, training, retention)
- Co-ordination among countries, regional, international organisations
- Lack of pragmatic capacity building by international organisations
- Data collection mechanisms (including infrastructure)
- Institutional systems lacking modern management arrangements
- Quality and policy relevance not well promoted
Key issues for implementing the 2008 SNA presented in the Handbook

- Institutional issues, e.g. need to create legal framework for implementing national accounts, strategy for developing the statistical system
- Building blocks of statistical infrastructure, e.g. business register and classifications
- Technical issues related to statistical and administrative data sources required for compiling national accounts
- Specific issues, such as the informal sector
Essential SNA: Building the Basics

Main features:

- Clear, simple, non-bureaucratic language
- Practical examples from countries
- Practical proposal for some estimations problems
- Several boxes (“The chapter in brief”, “To know more”)
Essential SNA: Building the Basics

First consultation (15 organisations, mid 2010)

Objectives:

(i) information concerning the statistical capacity of target countries, existing data sources, needs for national accounts implementation, the economic characteristics of the countries

(ii) opinion concerning the structure of the Handbook (detail, need for numerical examples, main topics which should be developed to meet countries needs for SNA implementation, best practices in the region for SNA implementation, etc)
Essential SNA: Building the Basics
Structure

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22-26 November 2010
Eurostat’s work in SNA implementation
Essential SNA – Plans for 2011

- Updating of the handbook
- Provide remote on-line helpdesk support
- Promotion and knowledge transfer
- E-learning module
- Translation into French and Spanish of the handbook
- Translation of E-learning module
ISI “Short course”

- 3 day course back-to-back with International Statistical Institute, Dublin, Ireland, August 2011
- Centred on “Essential SNA” handbook
- Invite heads of national accounts for 20 participants, plus young statisticians. Some will be funded by Eurostat to attend course and ISI itself
- Target: “Milestone 0” countries
- Looking for co-sponsor
ERETES  Project- Context

- ERETES
  Equilibre Ressource Emploi (Supply and Use Table)
  Tableau Entrée Sortie (Input Output Table)
- Software to build national accounts in conformity with SNA 93
- Belongs jointly to European Union and France who ensure its evolutionary maintenance (including adaptation to SNA 2008).
- ERETES User group
- Project managed by a steering committee constituted of the owners and the President of ERETES Group
- Software in use in African, Latin American, Mediterranean and European countries
ERETES Project - History

- 1990 : Beginning of project
- 1997 : First industrial version
- 1997-2010 : Several evolutions until the current version (3.3)
- 2007 : Starting of a strategy to transfer the knowhow to the users
- 2008 : Birth of a virtual community (ERETES Group)
- 2010 : Starting of adaption to SNA 2008
ERETES Software : Structure

The system’s components are integrated in a single system running on an ordinary office’s computer:

- input of structured data tools
- secured database for the storage
- signposted itinerary and elementary tasks defined according to chosen classification
- tools for team work’s management
- working and synthesis tables
- tools to export the results (output)

www.eretes.net
ERETES – Main advantages

- A robust common tool adaptable to very different users (Brazil vs. French overseas departments)
- Available in French, English and Spanish
- More than ten years of experience
- An SNA 2008 version available end of 2011
- A large community of users (and potential trainers)
- An institutional support
ECOTRIM – a tool developed by Eurostat

Tool developed by Eurostat for the disaggregation of temporal series – free software running under Windows

Based on mathematical/statistical techniques: produces high frequency estimates (short term statistics) starting from low frequency data

It is mainly used for the compilation of quarterly NA Field-Testing in Afristat
Definitions

- Temporal disaggregation
  - process of deriving high frequency data from low frequency data and, if available, related high frequency information

- ECOTRIM
  - supplies a set of mathematical and statistical techniques to carry out temporal disaggregation
Temporal disaggregation techniques are useful in compiling short-term statistics (e.g. QNA):

- **Quarterly National Accounts (QNA)**
  give a quarterly breakdown of the figures in the annual accounts

- **Flash estimates**
  use the available information in the best possible way including, in the framework of a statistical model, the short-term available information and the low frequency data in a coherent way

- **Monthly indicators of GDP**
  the monthly estimates are derived from the available information respecting the coherence with quarterly data
Other short-term statistics

- Short-term industrial statistics
- Employment
- Money and banking statistics
Thank you

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