



UNESCWA-UNSD



AITRS

**High Level meeting and Regional Seminar on the Implementation of the
2008 SNA and Supporting Statistics in the Arab Region**

24-27 June 2013

Amman, Jordan

High Level Meeting 24 June 2013

Draft Annotated Agenda

9:00-9:30 Registration

9:30-10:00 Introduction and keynote address

Opening statements by high representatives from host country and international and regional organizations will be made on the need for the development of a common strategic vision on the implementation of the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics for effective policy making

Opening remarks

Ministry of Planning, Jordan

Executive Secretary, ESCWA-DESA/UNSD

AITRS

10.00 – 10.30 Coffee/Tea break

10:30- 11:30 Session I. National Accounts for Economic Policy, Markets and Citizens

Moderator: Juraj Riecan, Director Statistics Division, ESCWA

The System of National Accounts 2008 (2008 SNA) has been adopted as the international standard for the compilation and dissemination of national accounts data. The global initiative of its implementation was mandated by the Statistical Commission at its fortieth session. The efficiency and sustainability of implementation of the new system rest on agreed principles of implementation strategy, namely: (a) strategic planning, (b) coordination, monitoring and reporting; and (c) improving statistical systems.

Strategic planning is a key principle in mobilizing political and financial support for investment in statistics for which strategic planning frameworks could be used to connect national development objectives with a programme of work for statistical capacity-building. Strategic planning can identify the current strengths and weaknesses of a current statistical system to produce key economic indicators and basic source data in consultation with users.

Speakers:

- Use of Macro Accounts in Policy Analysis, Ministry of Planning, Jordan
- National Accounts for Informed Policy, UNSD
- Statistical System Serving Canadian Economic and Financial Policy and Lessons Learned for The Arab Countries, Dr. Atif Kubursi, Department of Economics, McMaster University
- Macroeconomic Statistics for Regional Integration, Chief Economist ESCWA

11:30-12:00 Discussion

12:00-13:00 Theme II. Requirements of NSOs to Serve Governments with Macroeconomic Statistics

Moderator: Dr. Atif Kubursi

Consultation with users of macroeconomic indicators should revisit the scope, detail and quality of the national accounts and supporting economic statistics by taking a view on which socio-economic and financial policies have to be informed by the structural and short-term economic statistics, including annual and quarterly national accounts

Ministries of Planning, and Economy and Central Banks National Statistical offices are invited to support strengthening national statistical system and develop shared strategic vision for 2008 SNA implementation with clear country and government ownership and leadership and which is integrated with the national planning and budget processes

Speakers

- Building a Coherent System of National Accounts in PCBS, President
- Challenges of National Accounts Units and Economic Statistics Departments in Implementing 2008 SNA, Chief Economic Statistics, Oman

13:00-14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-15:00 Session III. Initiatives by the international organizations and countries

The implementation strategy of the 2008 SNA acknowledges the need for coordinated action, at the international, regional and sub-regional levels and emphasizes the need for close cooperation with regional commissions and sub-regional organisations.

In this session, the international and regional perspectives in developing the strategic vision and programme of work on the implementation of the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics will be presented as well as the benefits of moving over to the 2008 SNA and supporting short term statistics in a global economy with internal and cross boundary vulnerabilities:

Moderator: Fathi Nsour, Director, DOS

Presenters: UNSD, ESCWA,
Interventions by AITRS, ISDB, OIC, GCC, Donors

15:00-16:00 Discussion

16:00-17:00 Conclusions