



UNESCWA-UNSD



AITRS

**Regional Seminar on the Implementation 2008 SNA and Supporting  
Statistics in the Arab Region  
Amman, Jordan 25-27 June 2013**

**Tuesday 25 June 2013**

9:00–9:30 **Session 1.1 Registration**

9:30-10:00 **Opening of the Regional seminar**

Brief opening remarks by the co-organisers and the host country

Opening remarks:

- DOS, Jordan
- Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics
- UNSD
- ESCWA

Objective of the Seminar

Adoption of agenda

Introduction of participants and administrative announcements

10.00-10.30 Coffee break

10.30-11.00 **Session 1.2 Developing a programme for the implementation of the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics**

The institutional process and assessment and reporting tools for the development of a programme of implementation of the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics will be set out. Particular attention will be given to the stages in undertaking a system wide consultation, outreach and involvement of the major data producers and users, the coordinating role of the NSO, the required resource mobilisation for the programme and the possible external technical assistance required.

ESCWA will present a report on the current status of SNA and implications of the 2008 implementation in the Arab Countries

*Presentations*

- UNSD
- ESCWA

11.00-11.30 Discussion

11.30-13.00 **Session 1.3 Country presentations** (15 min presentation, 10 min discussion each)

Each participating country will make a presentation on an overview of the main policy issues and their relationship with the scope and detail of the national accounts framework, as well as an overview of current compilation practices, new requirements by economic activity and institutional sector, and statistical and institutional actions to remedy shortcomings as described in the note prepared by the countries for the meeting. Also, each participating country will make a brief presentation on self assessment of their statistical requirements and needs for the implementation of the 2008 SNA based on the self assessment questionnaire sent in advance to the countries.

*Presentations;*

Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait



**UNESCWA-UNSD**



**AITRS**

13.00-14.00 **Lunch**

14.00- 16.00 **Session 1.4 Country presentations ---- continued**

*Presentations*

Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen

16.45 -17.00 Wrap up of day 1

**Wednesday 26 June 2013**

09:00– 10:30 **Session 2.1 Overview of statistical production process in an integrated economic statistics approach**

This session will start with a presentation by ESCWA on the technical advisory missions offered to some pilot countries in the ESCWA region, under the umbrella of the ESCWA project for the implementation of SNA 2008 and in response to country requests, in order to provide a closer assessment of the technical challenges and to be able indulge more into the specificity of country challenges in terms of data collection, sourcing and compilation. This will be followed by presentations by UNSD, Regional organizations and NSO on the application of the integrated economic statistics approach to the statistical production process taking into account the institutional environment and the main elements of the statistical production process:

*Presentations*

*ESCWA – Regional Advisor Technical Advisory missions*

UNSD - Handbook on Integrated Economic Statistics

NSO, Jordan, 2 other countries

- Statistical business registers
- Business surveys
- Administrative sources
- Dissemination and communication methods

10:30-11:00 **Coffee Break**

11:00-12:00 **Session 2.2 Overview of statistical production process in an integrated economic statistics approach -- continued**

This session shall cover presentations by the host and pilot countries on the elements of statistical production process:

*Presentations:*

NSO, Jordan, 2 other countries

- Samples and surveys (quarterly and annual surveys – CPI and PPI)
- Classification (ISIC Rev 4)
- Use of administrative data sources
- Data linking (government and NSO datasets)



**UNESCWA UNSD**



**AITRS**

**12:00-13:00 Session 2.3 Overview of statistical production process in an integrated economic statistics approach -- continued**

This session shall cover presentations by the host and pilot countries on the elements of statistical production process:

*Presentations:*

NSO, Jordan, 2 other countries

- Data sources used for compilation of GDP by expenditure approach
- Capital stock and consumption of fixed capital
- Supply and use tables
- Integration of balance of payments into the national accounts

**13:00-14:00 Lunch Break.**

**14:00-16:30 Session 2.4. Scope and detail of the national accounts required for effective economic policy**

This session aims at providing guidance and insight to member countries towards developing a national strategic plan for the implementation of SNA 2008 while at the same time developing an outreach programme in coordination with the senior policy makers and analysts in their countries. This session will be complimented with a presentation on the progressive multiple policy uses of the statistics, accounts and tables of the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics with the extended scope and detail as recommended and required by the Minimum Required Data Set (MRDS). Countries will also have the opportunity to discuss important issues that might arise from the session presentations.

*Presentations*

ESCWA - Setting the way towards a national implementation plan

UNSD - The policy use of national accounts

**16:30-17:00 General Discussion and wrap-up of day 2**

**Thursday 27 June 2013**

**09:00-10:30 Session 3.1 Discussion on selected issues on 2008 SNA implementation**

Following the outcomes of, successive events organized by ESCWA in National Accounts, regional seminars in Muscat (Oman) 2010 the Expert Group Meeting held in Cairo in 2009 and Amman 2012 and the publication of two booklets on National Accounts in the ESCWA region: Sources and Methods, UNSD and ESCWA jointly will make brief presentations to introduce the main issues concerning those topics. Also, the relevant conceptual issues related to the change over to the 2008 SNA will be discussed like goods for processing,



**UNESCWA UNSD**



**AITRS**

change over to ISIC Revision 4. This will be followed by a presentation by ESCWA on the implications of the changeover to the 2008 system of National Accounts.

*Presentations*

Countries - Present selected issues for discussion

ESCWA/UNSD – Address country questions on selected conceptual changes in the 2008 SNA

ESCWA Implication of the changeover to the 2008 SNA, Kotb Salem

**10:30-11:00 Coffee Break**

**11:00-13:00 Session 3.2: Short-term and early warning economic indicators**

After a brief introduction on the publication planned by ESCWA for 2013 on short-term economic indicators based on the United Nations general framework. Participants will identify and recommend a core list of short-term indicators.

ESCWA will present also the Development Account project on Short-term economic statistics that will be implemented in the next 3 years.

The discussion will feed into the regional strategy for improving economic statistics and National Accounts in the region, which will form the object of discussion under Item 3 of the agenda.

*Presentation*

ESCWA

**13:00-14:00 Lunch Break.**

**14:00-16:00 Session 3.3. Way forward**

This session will allow for reaching a broad agreement on the actions to be taken at the national, sub-regional, regional and international level to ensure that mutually reinforcing actions will advance the formulation and implementation of a multi-year national and sub-regional programme for the implementation of the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics.

**Closing**