



# UNECE Statistical Division National Accounts Programme

Seminar in Dushanbe, November 2007  
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## National Accounts Team

- Methodological work in national accounts (SNA93 update, surveys of national practices, etc.);
- Secretariat support for the working group on Globalisation;
- Organization of expert meetings on National Accounts and related areas;
- Data collection, production and dissemination;
- Technical assistance.

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## SNA 1993 update

- Consult the decisions on the SNA update with member countries;
- Participation in the work of the ISWGNA and the AEG;
- Commenting on draft chapters;
- Contribution to the Long-term research agenda.

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/snarev1.asp>

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/sna1993/draftingPhase/ChapterIssueMatrix.asp>

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## Surveys of national practices

- Measurement of Capital Stock in Transition Economies;
- Service Life of Assets;
- Measuring of Non-observed Economy (1991, 2001/2002 and 2005/2006);
- Use of employment data in National Accounts (2006/2007).

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## Use of employment data in National Accounts

- Employment data in national accounts are of increasing interest to users and policy makers:
  - Productivity analysis: need of employment data consistent with the GDP and output measures;
  - Need to reconcile NA labour inputs with other statistics of the labour market (LFS, earnings, SBS, employment/unemployment);
  - Publishing of harmonised metadata is important for in-depth analyses.

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## Use of employment data in National Accounts

### Eurostat&OECD survey of employment data

- 36 responding countries:
  - 27 EU member states
  - 3 EFTA countries
  - 6 OECD non-EU countries
- Questionnaire contents:
  - persons in employment
  - hours worked
- LFS is the main source with variety of adjustments

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## Use of employment data in National Accounts

### UNECE Survey

- Mandated by the Joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on National Accounts (April 2006);
- Coverage: 23 UNECE members not included in Eurostat/OECD survey;
- Questionnaire: follow the structure of the Eurostat questionnaire to the extent possible in order to provide harmonised metadata;
- Explore best way to exchange country experiences, including best practices publication.

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## Use of employment data in National Accounts

### UNECE Survey:

16 countries responded

- 9 CIS countries  
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Turkmenistan, Ukraine,
- 5 Western Balkan countries  
Albania, Croatia, Serbia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia
- Andorra and Israel.

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## Use of employment data in National Accounts

### UNECE Survey

- Collects information on the sources of employment data and the adjustments to reach the NA concept;
- Prevailing data source are enterprise surveys and administrative registers;
- Not all the countries calculate persons employed according to NA concept;
- Employment data (and LFS) are mainly used for exhaustiveness adjustment of other national accounts aggregates.

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## Working Group on the Impact of Globalisation on NA (WGGNA)

- CES decided to create a body to coordinate the work on globalisation statistics (June 2006);
- CES Bureau set up a Working Group (ToR approved in April 2007);
- Objectives:
  - to review the main distortions in the compilation of national accounts and related source statistics, as caused by the globalisation of economies.
  - to put forward proposals to deal with these distortions and improve the quality of national accounts.

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## Working Group on Impact of Globalisation on NA (WGGNA)

- Inventory of all task forces, working groups, etc. that have undertaken work on the impact of globalisation on statistics and national accounts in particular;
- The WG will be open for all member states of UNECE, OECD and Eurostat. IMF and UNCTAD will also participate;
- Leadership sub-group: Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, Netherlands, United Kingdom, USA, UNECE, OECD, Eurostat and IMF.

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## Working Group on Impact of Globalisation on NA (WGGNA)

- Output: Report to the CES in June 2010 that will identify the aspects of globalisation that affect NA and propose operation guidelines how to treat them. The report will cover three broad areas of issues:
  - problems linked to **allocation of value added and income to national economies**;
  - **specialisation of supply chains**: R&D, SPE, holding activities, international trade;
  - **other issues**: e-commerce, second homes, remittances, labour markets, common currency blocks.

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## Organisation of meetings

- Joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on NA (every 2 years in Geneva; next one 22-24 April 2008);
- Special meetings for transition countries (next one 21 – 22 April 2008 in Geneva);
- Working Group on Impact of Globalisation on National Accounts (every year in Geneva);
- OECD Working Party on National Accounts (every year in Paris);
- Other expert meetings (e.g. Canberra II in September 2005, ISWGNA in June 2007, Globalisation Seminar in Kiev, July 2007)

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## Data collection, production and dissemination

### Main users

- UNSD in New York - Committee of Contributions; online database, National Accounts publication;
- Development Policy and Analysis Division (DESA, NY) - WESS and WESP;
- Other internal users: Economic Cooperation and Integration Division (UNECE); Environment Division, etc.
- External users (missions, international organisations, researchers, etc): online database.

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## Data collection

### Data sources:

- Eurostat online database (EU-27, EFTA);
- OECD database (the US, Canada, Turkey, etc.);
- Questionnaires (Western Balkans and CIS);
- National publications and websites.

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## Data collection

### UNSD Questionnaire on national accounts

- Annual data (detailed tables):
  - GDP by production, expenditure and income;
  - Main aggregates (GDP, GNI, Saving);
  - GO, GVA and GCF by activity;
  - Final expenditure by purpose;
  - Sector accounts.

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## Data collection

### UNECE questionnaire

- Annual and quarterly national accounts at current and constant prices:
  - GDP by production approach (A6 breakdown);
  - GDP by expenditure approach;
  - ANA: ideally 1990 onwards;
  - QNA: ideally 2000 onwards (seasonally adjusted and non-adjusted data).

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## Data collection

### Data reporting by countries

- Regular data reporting:
  - April: UNSD detailed NAQ (annual data) and QNA;
  - October: simplified NAQ and QNA;
- Updates via national web sites and electronic publications
- One-off requests.

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## Data Processing

- Recalculation to a common base year;
- Combination of different data sources and smoothing of breaks to produce long time series;
- Conversion to a common currency (USD);
- Production of consistent set of PPPs (NC per USD);
- Derived indicators;
- Regional aggregates.

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## Data Dissemination

- UNECE Statistical database  
<http://w3.unece.org/pxweb/Dialog/>
- UNSD National Accounts Main Aggregates Database  
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/snaama/Introduction.asp>
- UN publication “National Accounts Statistics: Main Aggregates and Detailed Tables”.

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## Technical cooperation

- UN Development Account project:  
Strengthening the Statistical Capacity of Central Asian Countries to Monitor the Progress toward the MDG's (3 components: population and social conditions, health status of the population, non-observed economy).
- Organisation of seminars for Western Balkan and CIS countries.

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***Thank you***

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