

The African Project on the 2008 SNA will enable Member States to produce timely, quality, and harmonized economic statistics and national accounts in support of good economic governance, regional integration, and sustainable development.

IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND AVAILABILITY OF ECONOMIC STATISTICS

The African Project on the 2008 SNA will strengthen the capacity of Member States to:

- Produce comprehensive, aggregate, and up to date national accounts data
- Improve coverage of economic statistics, including the informal sector
- Produce harmonized national accounts and economic statistics
- Facilitate the sharing and adoption of experiences and best practices

STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE

The African Project will strengthen the capacity of Member States to provide evidence-based, responsive, and accountable governance.

Aggregate and harmonized statistics will enable governments to:

- Formulate robust macroeconomic policy
- Strengthen planning
- Improve forecasting and modeling
- Engage in evidence-based decision making
- Effectively monitor and evaluate the sustainability and inclusiveness of economic growth

FACILITATING REGIONAL INTEGRATION

The African Project will improve the quality and availability of economic statistics in critical areas in support of Africa's integration agenda:

- Trade
- Monetary and finance
- Transportation
- Energy
- Information technology and communication
- Environment

The harmonization of methodologies will facilitate policy coordination and regional integration.

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The 2008 SNA aims to improve the quality and availability of statistics on modes of production, productivity, income, and the environment, all of which impact the sustainability of people's livelihoods.

Along with its extensions, the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting and the Social Accounting Matrix, the 2008 SNA is a useful framework for monitoring and reporting on the post-2015 development agenda in support of inclusive and people-centered sustainable development.



CURRENT CHALLENGES FOR NATIONAL ACCOUNTS AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS

- Limited human, financial and technical resources
- Weak statistical infrastructure, technical and institutional capacity
- Unharmonious national accounts systems
- Inconsistency and incompleteness in covering the economy
- Early stages in the development of national accounts

Among all African countries, 12% are still using the 1968 version of the SNA and 88% are using the 1993 SNA, while the latest version is the 2008 SNA.

PROGRESS OF THE AFRICAN PROJECT

- The African Project was officially launched in January 2014.
- The Continental Steering Committee and the Secretariat of the Project established in September 2013.
- Project stakeholders consistently convene to coordinate project activities and mobilize technical and financial support.
- Over 2/3 of countries have developed or are in the process of developing national action plans for implementing the 2008 SNA.
- 2/3 of countries have identified a timeframe for transitioning towards the 2008 SNA.



6 PILLARS OF THE AFRICAN PROJECT

Through a process of discussion and consultation with the Heads of National Accounts of all African countries, the Project Implementation Plan (PIP) was developed in February 2014. The PIP is based on 6 pillars and serves as a coordination mechanism among project stakeholders.

- Developing country action plans and taking follow-up actions
- Technical assistance
- Institutional strengthening
- Technical documents
- Advocacy campaign
- Coordination, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Template and technical targets to support the formulation of national action plans.
- Technical, training, and financial assistance to strengthen the capacity of Member States.
- Expert Group Meetings to develop and finalize technical operational guidebooks.
- Quarterly AGNA Account Newsletter for information sharing and advocacy.
- Meetings of the Continental Steering Committee and the African Group on National Accounts to coordinate, monitor, and evaluate project activities.

PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS

- Member States
- Regional Economic Communities
- AFRISTAT
- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
- African Development Bank
- African Union Commission
- Regional and international organizations
- Development partners

BENEFICIARIES

The availability of quality national accounts and economic statistics is essential for evidence-based research, policy formulation, and decision making. Ultimately, beneficiaries will be citizens, benefiting from good economic governance informed by robust economic statistics.

- Decision makers
- National statistics offices
- Ministries
- Private sector
- Civil society groups
- Research and training institutions



FOR MORE INFORMATION: uneca.org/ESNA

The African Project on the Implementation of the 2008 System of National Accounts

Statistics for Economic Governance, Regional Integration, and Sustainable Development in Africa

The implementation of the 2008 SNA is a global statistical initiative & commitment



United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa