Compilation of SUTs as an integral part of the National Accounts in the United Nations Handbook

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The UN Handbook on Supply, Use and Input-Output Tables with Extensions and Applications consistent with the SNA 2008 and BPM 6 will be published in 2016. This Handbook is a completely new version and covers the use of the I-O framework and extends the scope of previous efforts, again with a focus on compilation and analysis as well as providing recommending guidelines for future best practice.

The Input-Output framework consists of Supply Tables, Use Tables, Input-Output Tables as well as extensions and analyses. Recognising the importance of these products, the UN has issued handbooks from time to time providing compilation guidance to help countries compile these tables, the last being in 1999. Revision of the international standards for macro-economic accounting and classifications like the SNA 2008, BPM 6 and ISIC Revision 4, required that the UN Handbook of Input Output Table Compilation and Analysis was revised. In addition, the Integrated Economic Statistics Guidelines have identified the need to update the Handbook as part of main building blocks of the statistical production process as statistical tool for reconciliation and use as organisational tool of statistical production process. The underlying concepts and principles of the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) have been used as an input in this Handbook covering the business process and stage of production processes underpinning the monetary and physical SUTs and IOTs.

The underlying aims and principles forming the drivers and content of this Handbook cover:

- Consistency with international standards like SNA 2008, BPM 6 and ISIC Revision 4.
- The rapid evolution and use of Supply and Use Tables to reconcile the components underpinning GDP within National Accounts in National Statistical Offices (NSOs).
- Provide recommendations/steer on best practice, and where appropriate, recognise acceptable alternatives, and facilitate practical guidance for countries with less developed statistical systems or very limited resources, etc.
- Provide greater links and integration of the I-O family of products including the links to the sustainability agenda covering the environmental dimension and System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA).
- A strong integration theme driving forward improved quality, coherence and consistency through close and inter-related production processes:
- Supply and Use Tables and Input-Output Tables should be produced together at the heart of the National Accounts within the NSOs. This may challenge the compilation of these tables, in various countries where they may be compiled in National Central Banks.
- Environmental Accounts and Regional Accounts are closely linked to the I-O products and should also be produced within the core National Accounts within the NSOs.

The paper will focus on compilation issues of the Supply and Use Tables at current prices and in volume terms.