

Introduction to the FIGARO-NAM Database: Multi-country National Accounting Matrices based on FIGARO



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Introduction

FIGARO-NAM is an experimental National Accounting Matrix developed by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) with support from Eurostat. It extends the FIGARO input-output tables by integrating production, consumption, income generation, income distribution, and capital formation into a single, consistent framework aligned with the System of National Accounts. By capturing the full circular flow of income across industries and institutional sectors for 49 countries (plus the rest of the world), it provides a harmonised multi-country database for analysing economic interlinkages and policy impacts.

Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Understand the conceptual foundations of a National Accounting Matrix (NAM) and its relationship with the System of National Accounts (SNA).
- Explain the structure and components of the FIGARO-NAM database.
- Identify the data sources and methodological steps behind its construction.
- Interpret the economic meaning of each block of the matrix (production, income generation, distribution, capital formation, etc.).
- Navigate and manage the FIGARO-NAM database using Excel in a practical and user-friendly way.
- Apply the matrix in a simple multiplier exercise to analyse economic impacts.

Organization

The module is organized in four sessions.

Session 1 – Conceptual Framework and Theory

Objective: Understand the theoretical background of the National Accounting Matrix.

- From Supply-Use and Input-Output tables to NAM
- The circular flow of income in an economy
- Institutional sectors and their interactions
- Alignment with the System of National Accounts (SNA)
- How FIGARO-NAM expands the traditional FIGARO tables

Session 2 – Structure and Data Behind FIGARO-NAM

Objective: Understand what the database contains and how it is constructed.

- Overview of the FIGARO-NAM database:
 - 49 countries + Rest of the World

- 64 industries and 64 products
- 5 institutional sectors
- Main data sources:
 - FIGARO Supply and Use Tables
 - Integrated Economic Accounts (Eurostat, OECD, UNSD)

Session 3 – Practical Use and Database Management

Objective: Learn how to work with the database in practice.

- Understanding the layout of the matrix
- Reading rows and columns correctly
- Identifying key blocks:
 - Production
 - Value added
 - Income distribution
 - Saving and capital formation
- Managing large matrices in Excel:
 - Filtering and structuring data
 - Extracting submatrices
 - Simple checks and consistency verification
- Preparing the matrix for analytical use

Session 4 – Applied Example: Multiplier Exercise

Objective: Apply FIGARO-NAM in a simple analytical exercise.

- Introduction to multiplier analysis in a NAM framework
- Calculating basic multipliers
- Interpreting results
- Discussion of policy relevance (trade, industrial policy, socioeconomic impacts)

Notes:

Students should refresh the basics of matrix algebra (from first year's course in mathematics).

All course attendees must have a computer with Internet connection, Excel or another compatible spreadsheet.

The instructors will provide the data, links and necessary materials of each session well in advance.

For further details please consult our [statistical working paper](#) detailing the methodology and construction process of the FIGARO-NAM database.

References:

- Pedauga, L., Ferreira, V., Banacloche, S., Romero, K., Rueda-Cantuche JM. and Montaigne, F. (2025) *Statistical working paper: FIGARO-NAM – National Accounting Matrix (experimental statistics)*, Statistical Working Papers No. KS-01-25-050. Available at: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/en/web/products-statistical-working-papers/w/ks-01-25-050>
- Eurostat. (2025). *National accounting matrices based on FIGARO (FIGARO-NAM)*. European Commission. Retrieved from: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/experimental-statistics/national-accounting-matrices-figaro>