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**Progress Report on the Implementation of the
2008 System of National Accounts in Africa***

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* The present document is being issued without formal editing.

I. Introduction

1. The goal of the report is to present the progresses made on the implementation of the 2008 System of National Accounts (SNA) and System of Environmental Economic Accounts (SEEA) in Africa since the previous session of the Commission (end of 2018) and until September 2020 and the main activities planned in the next period.
2. The implementation of the 2008 SNA is an international initiative and commitment, creating the conditions to improve the quality, availability, consistency, and harmonization of economic statistics and national accounts in all countries. In the last two years, all countries, along pan-African Institutions, Afristat, the Regional Economic Communities, regional and international organizations and development partners, worked collectively to implement the 2008 SNA in order to provide timely and quality national accounts, in support of good economic governance, regional integration, and sustainable development. Significant progress has been made in different fields of national accounts in spite of the challenges faced by the African statistical system, including: (i) limited human, financial and technical resources; (ii) weak statistical capacity and infrastructure; (iii) inharmonious national accounts systems; (iv) inconsistencies and incompleteness in covering the economy; and (v) being at an early stage in the development of national accounts.
3. The present report offers an overview of the activities undertaken for the implementation and development of the 2008 SNA and the results obtained in the following areas: (i) GDP rebasing; (ii) compilation of Supply and Use Tables (SUTs); (iii) quarterly national accounts; (iv) incorporation of the international comparison programme for Purchasing Power Parity (PPP); (v) development of the SEEA. It presents also the activities undertaken for building statistical capacity in Trade in Value Added (TiVA) and Consumer Price Index (CPI). The report is based on the results of the surveys carried out by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UN ECA) in September 2020 among countries and agencies and the documents available on the internet from different countries, international organizations, regional agencies and development partners.
4. This report is not comprehensive owing to limited coverage, notwithstanding the efforts made to be inclusive.

II. The 2008 SNA implementation and development

A. GDP Rebasing

5. One of the main objectives of national accounts is to present the evolution of the economy taking into account the changes in products, technologies, and household consumer behavior. For this reason, revisions of compilation methods and data sources used for the estimation of GDP take place periodically, and the most significant element is the updating of the benchmark year. There are African countries that have not updated their base year of national accounts for a long time, while others update it

regularly. Therefore, the efforts for many countries in Africa was to update their old base-year for GDP at constant prices to a more recent year, such as from the base-year of 2005 or before to a more recent year, such as, 2015 or 2016.

6. The rebasing procedure is a complex one and involves a consultative and participatory process that includes various data producers, data suppliers, and data users. For these reasons, it is a challenging process, especially for some countries in Africa.

Current status

7. In the last two years the majority of statistical offices in Africa developed a sustainable programme for the change of the base year and for improving the compilations of national accounts, based on their objective to provide accurate and useful data to users. Progress has been registered in many countries, but there are still some where the base year is more than five years out of date.
8. The current situation based on the survey conducted by ECA is presented in Annex Table 1.
9. In general, countries are classified into three groups. The first group, called the “already-moved” group, is comprised of countries that have begun the transition towards the 2008 SNA. There are 30 countries in this group: Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Eswatini, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, The Gambia, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
10. The second group, called the “2018-2022” group, consists of countries that have planned to transition to the 2008 SNA between 2018 and 2022. There are 20 countries in this group: Algeria, Angola, Central African Republic, Botswana, Cabo Verde, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Somalia, and Tunisia.
11. The third group, called the “undecided” group, includes the rest of the countries in the region.

Activities

12. The international and regional organizations made efforts to support the countries in the process of GDP rebasing. In response to countries’ request, the African Centre for Statistics (ACS), i.e. the Statistics Division of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) organized an e-training module in October 2018 for all African countries. The training was participated by 317 participants from 47 countries. The training helped to increase the understanding of the related concepts, definitions, classifications,

accounting framework, and data sources that are important for GDP rebasing and improving knowledge and skills of related techniques on how to conduct the process.

13. In June 2019, a workshop on National Accounts (NA) compilation issues for Anglophone countries was organized by the African Union Institute for Statistics (STATAFRIC). The main objective of this was to provide advice to the countries for the compilation of GDP and the NA and to enable exchange of experiences and best practice. For Francophone countries the workshop was organized in October 2019.
14. African Development Bank (AfDB) organized a regional workshop on sharing experiences on national accounts back casting in Senegal in November 2019. The workshop was dedicated to West African and Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) countries. The objective of the workshop was to build statistical capacity of countries on national accounts back casting.
15. A regional seminar on GDP rebasing based on SUTs was organized by ECA jointly with UNSD and ONS UK from 12th to 15th November 2019 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Thirty-four statistical officers from 18 National Statistics Offices (NSOs) participated in the seminar. The purpose of the seminar was to further strengthen the technical capacity of the participants on GDP rebasing and to enable an exchange of experience and best practices between countries, so that countries can move forward to the third phase of this capacity building programme, i.e. to rebase GDP in their respective countries in the next one or two years.
16. East AFRITAC, AFRITAC South, and COMESA conducted a joint regional workshop in Zambia in January 2020 to train member countries on better approaches for compiling volume and price measures in national accounts. Forty-six officials from 19 NSOs participated in the workshop. Country delegates identified weaknesses in their current compilation practices and possible areas for improvement, including the change of base year for the calculation of national accounts and improvement of data sources.
17. Due to the pandemic condition, a remote e-workshop for the annual national accounts expert group, took place in July 2020 with the participation of 34 countries, along AfDB, ECA, Afristat, STATAFRIC and Expertise France. The major objective was to strengthen countries in all technical aspects of the compilation of annual GDP, to get a mutual update of their current status and to inform on the need for further support. The draft manual on the NA has been presented and discussed among the participants.
18. Beside the trainings, the African countries received individual technical support focused on their needs. There were many missions undertaken by experts from different organizations in the last two years. It is not possible to present them in detail in the report; for more details please refer to [Annex Table 2](#) at the back of this report. The aim is to offer an overview of the beneficiary countries and the main providers.
19. The STATAFRIC supported the countries in the implementation of the 2008 SNA and improvement in different fields (rebasings of GDP, use of ERETES, development of

data sources for the compilation of national accounts, etc.). The beneficiary countries were Burundi, Cabo Verde, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Liberia, South Sudan, and Tanzania.

20. From 2019 to the first half of 2020, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), through its regional technical centers in Africa conducted several technical missions with their main objective to support the countries in establishing a new base year for national accounts, which is important for planning and decision-making for economic development. Results have been achieved in countries such as Botswana, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, Congo, Gambia, Ghana, Gabon, Kenya, Rwanda, Mali, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Togo and Zambia. Other countries, Cabo Verde, Liberia, and Sierra Leone started the preparatory activities and made efforts to collect the necessary data for the rebasing of the annual national accounts.
21. The World Bank (WB) assessed the quality of newly compiled series of national accounts in Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Mauritania, Niger, Tanzania, and Togo.
22. In order to support the countries in the process of GDP rebasing, AfDB and IMF-AFRITAC provided assistance to several countries (Eswatini, Botswana, Malawi and Zambia).
23. Joint missions (AfDB, Afristat, IMF, WB and ECA) have been conducted in Côte d'Ivoire (November 2019 and January 2020) aimed at supporting the GDP rebasing in accordance with the 2008 SNA and the use of new survey data.
24. Technical support was provided jointly by AfDB, Afristat, West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU), IMF, WB and ECA in Niger and Togo. The missions carried out in Niger (October 2019) and Togo (January 2020), focused on analysis of the results of the GDP rebasing based on the 2008 SNA.
25. The national accounts peer review was undertaken by AfDB in Uganda in October 2019, which resulted in the release of the rebased and benchmarked GDP (November 2019).
26. The National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE) of France offered significant support in 2019 (with five missions and on-line support) and in the first half of 2020 (on-line support) to Cabo Verde for the establishment of the new base year for national accounts (2015). Cabo Verde chose ERETES as the main tool for the rebase of national accounts.
27. INSEE offered technical support to Algeria, Burkina Faso, Egypt and Tunisia for the alignment to the 2008 SNA and the use of ERETES for the compilation of national accounts. In Egypt, the support was made jointly with AfDB, during the mission carried out in December 2019.

B. Compiling SUTs

28. The Supply and Use Tables (SUTs) play an important role as an integration framework of the national accounts. The supply and use system is the best framework for compiling both GDP at current and at constant prices in an integrated approach. They constitute the tool of the internationally compatible accounting framework for a systematic and detailed description of the economy and of its various components in relations to other economies.

Current status

29. SUTs are used in many African countries as a general framework for the estimation of national accounts. Many countries compiled and updated their SUTs every year (see [Annex Table 1](#)). It is noted that from 37 countries that compile SUTs, 22 of them do this every year.

Activities

30. ECA, together with WB, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the World Trade Organization (WTO), and supported by Office for National Statistics (ONS) UK and UN Statistics Division (UNSD) has initiated and been undertaking a capacity-building programme to support countries in updating, compiling, and applying SUTs. The programme consists of a series of activities in three phases: an e-training module, a face-to-face seminar, and follow-up national workshops and on-site technical assistance.

31. The three-phase approach is proved to be very effective. In particular, given the current climate, the e-training modules provided opportunities for a large participation and regular attendance from almost all the countries in the region. The e-training was conducted in both English and French with a pool of resource persons inside and outside of the Continent. Presentation combined with forums of discussions, it also allowed for specific country queries to be answered.

32. In the third phase of the Capacity Building Programme on the Compilation and Application of SUTs in Africa, ECA provided technical support from 2019 to the date of this report to Eswatini, Seychelles and Zambia. As a result of the activities undertaken, the SUTs have been compiled in the participating countries.

33. IMF provided technical support to several countries (Chad, Ghana and Nigeria) for producing and balancing SUTs. In Ghana, base year 2013 was used to finalize the preliminary figures of the rebased annual and quarterly GDP, to balance for years 2013 to 2018, and for the back casting of series to 2006. Further progress was made by Nigeria towards the development of the SUT spreadsheet for compiling rebased GDP and refining the bridge tables.

C. Quarterly national accounts

34. Quarterly national accounts (QNA) play an important role in providing short-term and timely information for the policy making and public needs in monitoring of the economy. It requires high-quality and short-term statistical instruments and data in order to provide users a set of comparable and reliable information.

Current situation

35. Being aware of the importance of the short-term information on national accounts, African countries, with the support of international and regional organizations, have undertaken intense activity for the implementation and development of QNA.
36. In September 2020, from 45 countries that answered the survey conducted by ECA, 27 have compiled and disseminated quarterly GDP (QGDP). The production approach is used in all countries and expenditure approach is used in addition to this in about half of the countries. South Africa compiles QGDP based on the three approaches (production, expenditure and income). The results of the survey are presented in [Annex Table1](#).

Activities

37. The methodological approaches and compilation practices have been presented to the countries through different workshops and seminars. STATAFRIC organized in 2019 a workshop/training on QNAs for Ethiopia, and workshops on NA compilation issues for English-speaking and French-speaking countries respectively. In July 2020, an e-meeting on QNA compilation issues induced by the Covid-19 pandemic took place with the participation of 33 countries, along with AUC, AFRISTAT, Economic Community of West African Countries (ECOWAS), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Southern African Development Community (SADC), INSEE and Expertise France/PAS.
38. IMF provided technical support to the African countries for the compilation of QGDP by production and expenditure approaches, at current and constant prices. Many missions have been undertaken and practical guidelines for the compilation process have been distributed.
39. INSEE supported Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia for the development of QNA.

D. International Comparison Programme (ICP)

40. The ICP is a global statistical initiative established in the early 1970s to produce internationally comparable price levels, expenditure values, and Purchasing Power Parities (PPP) estimates, with the objective of facilitating cross-country comparisons of price levels, and economic aggregates in real terms. The measures of economic aggregates based on exchange rates do not reflect differences in price levels between

countries and are thus unsuitable for policy decisions which should, in principle, relate to volumes free of price distortions. By establishing purchasing power equivalence, where one dollar purchases the same quantity of goods and services in all countries, PPP data allow cross-country comparisons of economic aggregates and structures on the basis of volumes, free of price and exchange rate distortions.

41. The ICP 2017 cycle was initiated successfully at the national, regional, and global levels, under the coordination of the World Bank. The data collection took place from 2016 to 2018 and the results to be published in 2020. ICP Africa was not only a source of reliable and policy relevant data, it was also a comprehensive and coherent regional platform for building up statistical capacities.

Activities

42. The African Development Bank (AfDB) reported that 50 countries were participating in the 2017 cycle: Egypt, Morocco and Sudan are participating in both the African and Western Asia regional comparisons. Some additional countries, such as Libya and South Sudan are benefiting from capacity- building activities but are not taking part in the 2017 regional comparison. At present, under the coordination of AfDB the 2017 ICP results are under the preparation to be published (by the end of the year).
43. After close to two years of data collection for both price and national accounts data, the AfDB in collaboration with COMESA and AFRISTAT, organized a data validation and closure workshop for the 2017 ICP round. The workshop was held in Ethiopia in April 2019. The workshop also took advantage of the momentum gathered, and experiences acquired, so far during this 2017 ICP round to set the base for the preparations of the 2020 ICP round of activities.

E. Developing System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA)

44. The System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) is an international statistical standard that represents an integration of the environmental and economic accounts. Following the System, an environmentally extended SUT (EE-SUT) allows countries to examine their supply and usage of environmental resources in the context of their economies.
45. The development of SEEA represents a new challenge for the African countries. Strong support from governments, policymakers and stakeholders is required to mobilize all domestic resources. Close cooperation with related line ministries and a common effort to obtain financial resources from both domestic and international sources is the best way for further development.

Current status

46. There are few countries on the continent that have started the compilation of environmental-economic accounts. The lack of human and financial capacity is the

major obstacle for data collection, compilation, and dissemination of environmental-economic accounts in many African countries. Based on the survey in September 2020, about 10 countries had activities in this field (see [Annex Table 1](#)).

Activities

47. ECA deployed a capacity building programme aiming at advancing environment statistics and accounts in Africa in 2018-19. The programme had three phases similar to other programmes conducted by ECA: e-training and a face-to-face regional seminar that took place in 2018, and following up with technical assistance and national workshops to support the participating pilot countries to implement SEEA in their countries.
48. The e-training carried out in spring 2018 provided the base knowledge concerning SEEA, including the methodology for Water, Energy, Emissions, Land, Forest and Waste accounts. Application on EE-SUTs to public policy and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was also included. It was attended by 372 participants from 49 countries. The second phase, the face-to-face seminar carried out in July 2018 was attended by 51 participants from 15 countries. The seminar was designed to guide participants through module approach and hands-on practice of the procedures necessary to compile and apply SEEA accounts and EE-SUTs including six major environmental accounts. Successful completion of Phase II prepared the countries for Phase III which consists of national workshops and technical assistance.
49. To consolidate the ongoing work of Phase III and to exchange country experiences of this capacity building programme, a Regional Seminar on the development of Energy and Forest Accounts according to the Central Framework (SEEA-CF) and Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (SEEA-AFF) was held at the beginning of September 2019 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Several national workshops and technical assistance missions were conducted during Phase III in each of the participating pilot countries. Burundi, Ghana, and Nigeria completed compiling EE-SUTs of energy; and Cameroon, Morocco and Senegal completed compiling EE-SUTs of forest by the end of 2019.
50. Currently, the WB provides technical assistance to Egypt, Morocco, Uganda and Zambia to develop the SEEA. The aim of the collaboration is to develop the following different system of accounts: air emission and waste (Egypt), land and forest (Uganda and Zambia), water (Zambia), ecosystem accounts (Morocco), and Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) of coastal services in pilot sites (marine and coastal ecosystems) plus climate change expenditures (Morocco).

III. Related statistics

A. Trade in Value Added (TiVA)

51. The goods and services purchased are composed of inputs from various countries around the world. However, the flows of goods and services within these global production chains are not always reflected in conventional measures of international trade. The development of Trade in Value-Added (TiVA) addresses this issue by considering the value added by each country in the production of goods and services that are consumed worldwide. TiVA indicators are designed to better inform policy makers by providing new insights into the commercial relations between nations.
52. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and hence the SDGs look to facilitate new development paths for Africa by reversing the continent's marginalization in the global economy and helping it to catch up with more developed economies. Services can play an important role as they represent an opportunity for African countries to report higher value added and unlock Africa's industrial and trade potential. In these conditions, a major challenge is assessing the contribution of the services sector in the economy and understanding the complexity of global and regional services value chains which are essential for services to thrive.

Activities

53. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) together with ECA developed the project “*Strengthening services trade policy-making for Africa's integration into regional value chains in support of the 2030 Agenda*” for the period 2017-2021. It proposes to strengthen capacities to measure the value added that is generated by Regional Value Chains (RVCs), to assess the degree to which developing the services sector may improve the tradability of goods and services and support developing the necessary policy frameworks to enable the sectors’ growth.
54. The project objective is to support a group of African countries and regions with tools and methodologies to gain a better understanding of services value chains in three selected key services sectors which are critical for trade and, at the same time, can generate important sources of income and sustainable livelihoods for Africans. These services sectors are financial services, tourism services and infrastructure services. The pre-selected countries are Ethiopia and Kenya (for infrastructure services), Gambia and Mali (for tourism services), and Nigeria and Togo (for financial services).
55. In January 2019, UNCTAD and the ECA jointly held a train-the-trainer seminar to discuss and validate a methodology, using both quantitative and qualitative tools, to measure the contribution of services to RVCs. The analytical tools were adapted to the context of the beneficiary countries.
56. Following the regional train-the-trainer seminar held in Addis Ababa, UNCTAD and ECA jointly supported the six project beneficiary countries to organize national seminars. These workshops were led by the trainees that attended the Addis Ababa Seminar, with the support and oversight of UNCTAD and ECA staff. In Kenya and Ethiopia, the seminars were organized respectively on 14-15 May and 12-13 June 2019. The seminars also included participants from both public and private sectors, who

discussed the constraints to transport services at national and regional levels, and the ways to exploit their full potential. In Gambia and Mali, the seminars took place, respectively, on 22-23 May and 29-30 July 2019. The relevant methodological approaches available to measure and assess the contributions of tourism services to economic performance and value chains integration were discussed at the events. In Nigeria and Togo, the seminars were held on 23-24 May and 12-13 June 2019, respectively, and discussed the organization of financial services value chains at national and regional levels, as well as the tools available to assess their contributions to regional value chains.

57. By the first quarter of 2020, UNCTAD and ECA provided support to national consultants and stakeholders in each of the project countries to undertake value chain studies in selected services' sub-sectors.
58. The WTO launched together with ECA at the beginning of 2020 the project for "Developing Statistical Capacity in Africa for Integration into Trade in Value Added (TiVA) databases". The project will provide technical support to the country selected for the project in order to build experience in TiVA for future capacity building in the region.
59. ECA, in cooperation with WTO and OECD organized an e-training on the measurement of TiVA. It started on 15th September 2020 and has a duration of almost 4 weeks (until 8 October 2020). There were 335 participants from 48 countries, along with 30 participants from 14 international and regional organization and partners. The purpose of the e-training is to provide African statisticians with background statistical knowledge on TiVA and Global Value Chains (GVCs) concepts and indicators as well as the data requirements for inclusion in the underlying Inter-Country Input-Output (ICIO) tables used for generating TiVA and other GVC indicators, in particular, national Supply and Use Tables (SUTs), consistent Systems of National Accounts (SNA) time series (main aggregates and industry output measures) and bilateral trade in goods and services statistics.

B. CPI data collection

60. Improvement of price data, including rebasing of the consumer price index (CPI) and the development of a Harmonized Consumer Price Index (HCPI) and Producer Price Index (PPI) is important for international comparison, budget preparation and the formulation of monetary policy. The international and regional organizations supported the African countries in their efforts to improve the compilation of CPI.

Activities

61. In the reporting period, the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC) together with the technical support of AFRISTAT, finalized the project concerning the compilation of the HCPI. The purpose of HCPI is to measure the

monetary inflation that can be different from the national CPI, which are used for different purposes, as cost of living measurement or wage indexation.

62. The beneficiary countries of the project were Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Central African Republic, Gabon, and Equatorial Guinea. During the project, the software Phonix was installed, the basket of goods and services established, data collected, and the first estimates of the price index released.
63. Afristat organized in January 2020 a seminar for the official presentation of the new HCPI in Gabon.
64. IMF provided technical assistance for the rebasing of CPI and improvement of the estimates in several countries including Cabo Verde, Eritrea, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Libya, Malawi, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, and Tunisia.
65. The restrictions imposed due to COVID-19 created difficulties for statistical data collection activities as most of the surveys are conducted through face-to-face interviewing. This had an impact on the compilation of indicators, one of them being CPI. To answer to the new challenges, there are necessary joint efforts to find technical solutions suitable for the African countries. For this reason, ECA, along with partner institutions, organized a Regional Seminar via teleconference on Data Collection for Compilation of CPI in the context of Covid-19 in the weeks of 18-28 May 2020. The Seminar provided a forum for the exchange and sharing of practice and experience among countries, international and regional organizations, academia, and development partners.
66. INSEE held in Morocco in April and May 2020, four videoconferences in order to support the compilation of CPI in the pandemic period and to set up a household survey on the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on their consumption.
67. ECA launched in August 2020 an “ECA Price Watch Center” for a unique view of price variations in African countries, regional economic communities, and at continental level. The goal is to bring the prices and exchange rates of all African countries into one platform that’s readily accessible to citizens, decision makers and other stakeholders. The platform will involve monthly, quarterly and annual analyses of inflation.

C. Publications

68. Publications prepared as support for the implementation and development of the 2008 SNA and related statistics are:
 - “*Operational Guidebook on How to Do GDP Rebasings*” (“Operational Guidebook”), elaborated by the African Centre for Statistics (ACS). It provides practical guidance for national accountants on GDP rebasing.

- “*Guide to Analyze Natural Resources in the National Accounts*” (prepared by IMF) presents and explains a set of standard Template Tables using the concepts recommended in the 2008 SNA. The Template Tables will guide compilation of national accounts for natural resources and provide indicators for understanding the macroeconomic impact of changes in natural resource output and prices.

69. Related publications under preparation are:

- The “*Handbook on National Accounting Backcasting Methodology*” prepared by UN. It provides national statistical offices with appropriate guidelines and advice on backcasting. The handbook discusses in detail the need for backcasted national accounts data, the design and management of a backcasting process, different methodological approaches for backcasting, quality assurance, and communication issues.
- “*Consumer Price Index Manual – Concepts and Methods*” (IMF). The manual represents an update of the 2004 Consumer Price Index (CPI) Manual, to incorporate changes in best practices and methods, to harmonize the CPI concepts with the 2008 SNA and to include more practical compilation advice.
- “*Manual on basics for the compilation of GDP for African countries*” (STATAFRIC) which aims to assist national accounts staff in implementing the 2008 SNA.

IV. Conclusions, the Way Forward, and Points for Discussion

A. Conclusions

70. In the reporting period significant activities have been carried out and achievements recorded. The countries made efforts for the implementation and development of the 2008 SNA. The level of achievements in statistics differ from country to country, but it is necessary to underline the results obtained in GDP rebasing, compilation of SUTs and SEEA, development of quarterly national accounts, and rebasing of the CPI, along with the improvement in the quality of data sources used for national accounts.
71. Significant amount of resources were channeled to countries by the international organizations, regional agencies and other donors to support them to achieve the objectives planned for the implementation and development of the 2008 SNA. Part of them are presented in [Annex Table 2](#). The programmes implemented include training through seminars, workshops, and courses in priority topics, many technical missions undertaken by experts and sharing of best practice of the compilation process of economic indicators.
72. Considering the constraints that exist in the countries (conditions socio-politic, limited human and financial resources, capacity to absorb the knowledge), there is a need for

strengthened the donor coordination in some areas and better collaboration between delivery partners and the statistical offices.

73. The year 2020 was marked by the pandemic crises. Despite the difficult working conditions, the programmes in place continued and the countries received support, using different communication tools. Covid-19 has brought a new set of challenges to countries and the statistical community. The compilation and dissemination of statistical data timely and in a regular manner received support and statistical offices deployed significant efforts to produce and disseminate leading economic indicators. However there have been significant challenges in Africa. The disruptive negative effects of COVID-19 will trap countries in a vicious cycle of limited resources and poor performance in supporting developing countries' planning efforts. NSO's capacities to collect, compile and disseminate even the minimum data needed, let alone respond to new challenges, and to meet new demands for data and statistics will be compromised. The lack of accurate data for informed decision making will likely have a negative toll on economic and social development of countries.

B. The way forward

74. To ensure the continuity of operations, countries and international organizations will share best practices in the business continuity so that the statistical offices can develop their activity, publish key leading economic indicators such as and GDP, CPI, the balance of payments and put in place new projects. Experts will share ideas and develop new indicators that help citizens, governments and business understand the interaction between health care and the economy.
75. The programme in place will continue in the next period and the new ones will be defined based on the requirements from development partners. The expressed needs of countries are to assist them in the implementation of the 2008 SNA requirements, to regularly update the base year used to measure GDP estimates in volumes, development of SUTs and SEEA indicators and other related statistics. The countries will also be supported to continue improvements in the CPI based on the Practical Guide to Producing Consumer Price Indices 2009 and once the updated CPI Manual is finalized, will include support for countries to produce more regular updates of the basket of goods and services and further enhancements of compilation procedures.
76. It is noted some concrete actions planned for the next period, as:
- Organization by AfDB of a technical webinar on the implementation status of the 2008 SNA in regional member countries in order to take stock of the practice of national accounts in and preparing for upcoming deadlines in the context of the COVID-19 health crisis.
 - STATAFRIC is planning to organize an online workshop on selected national accounts compilation issues for countries.

- AfDB prepares the 2021 ICP round, that will start from January 2021.
- STATAFRIC is planning to improve in the next period (October 2020-April 2021) the methodology for quarterly macroeconomic aggregates compilation for the Regional Economic Communities and the African Union and to organize a follow-up e-trainings on quarterly national accounts.

77. Member countries will continue to build the capacity of their staff and to develop and improve the quality of national accounts and price statistics. The implementation of the different work plans will be affected in the future by the Covid-19 pandemic. The scheduled activities and planned outcomes will be continuously reviewed and adjusted as appropriate.

C. Points for Discussion

78. The Statistical Commission is invited to express its views on the following:

- The progress of African Project on the 2008 SNA and SEEA and other economics statistics.
- Further support on the development of SNA as framework for statistical development, taking into accounts the human and financial resources.
- Specific initiatives to support Member States that are lagging behind in the implementation of SNA.
- International coordination of the support provided to countries.
- Adapt the development strategies and cooperation to the new situation due to the pandemic conditions.

Annex Table 1: Status of National Accounts and SEEA in Countries

Country	Current situation			Frequency of SUTs updated			Latest SUTs are for (year)	Available quarterly GDP	SEEA	
	SNA Used	Base year of Real GDP	Available SUTs	Every year	Every 2 years	≥ 5 years			Accounts compiled	Plan for future
Algeria	1993 SNA	2001	Y	√			2018	Y		Yes
Angola	1993 SNA	2002	Y	√			2014	Y		Yes
Benin	2008 SNA	2015	Y	√			2017	Y		
Botswana	1993 SNA	2006	N					Y	Energy, water, mineral	
Burkina Faso	2008 SNA	2015	Y	√			2017	Y		
Burundi	2008 SNA	2016	Y	√			2017	Y	Energy	
Cabo Verde	1993 SNA	2007	Y	√			2017	Y		
Cameroon	2008 SNA	2005	Y	√			2019	Y	Experimental forest account	
Central African Republic	1993 SNA	2005	Y	√			2017	N		
Chad	1993 SNA	2005	Y	√				N		
Comoros	1993 SNA	2007	Y	√				N		
Congo	1993 SNA	2005	Y	√			2016	N		
Cote d'Ivoire	2008 SNA	2015	Y	√			2018	Y		
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1993 SNA	2005	Y	√			2015	N		
Djibouti	2008 SNA	2013	Y	√			2014			
Egypt	2008 SNA	2012	Y		√		2014-2015	Y		
Equatorial Guinea	1993 SNA	2006	Y	√			2017	Y		
Eritrea	1993 SNA	2006	N					N		
Eswatini	2008 SNA	2011	Y			√	2018	Y		
Ethiopia	1993 SNA	2011	Y			√		N		
Gabon	1993 SNA	2001	Y	√				N		Energy, Water, Forest and fisheries

Country	Current situation			Frequency of SUTs updated			Latest SUTs are for (year)	Available quarterly GDP	SEEA	
	SNA Used	Base year of Real GDP	Available SUTs	Every year	Every 2 years	≥ 5 years			Accounts compiled	Plan for future
Gambia	2008 SNA	2013	N					N		
Ghana	2008 SNA	2013	Y			√	2004	Y		
Guinea	1993 SNA	2006	Y	√			2018	N		Energy, Water, Forest and fisheries
Guinea-Bissau	1993 SNA	2005	Y	√				N		
Kenya	2008 SNA	2009	Y			√				
Lesotho	2008 SNA	2012	N					Y		
Liberia	2008 SNA	2016	N					N		
Libya										
Madagascar	1993 SNA	2007	Y			√		Y		
Malawi	1993 SNA	2010								
Mali	1993 SNA	1997	Y	√			2017	Y		
Mauritania	2008 SNA	2014	Y	√			2017	N		
Mauritius	2008 SNA	2006	Y			√	2013	Y	Water	
Morocco	2008 SNA	2007	Y			√	2019	Y		
Mozambique	2008 SNA	2014	Y	√			2017	Y		Forest and fisheries
Namibia	2008 SNA	2015	N					Y		
Niger	2008 SNA	2015	Y	√			2017	N		
Nigeria	2008 SNA	2010	Y			√	2010	Y	Energy	
Rwanda	1993 SNA	2011								
Sao Tome and Principe	1993 SNA	2008	Y				2017	N		
Senegal	2008 SNA	2014	Y	√			2018	Y	Forests and wood resources	Yes

Country	Current situation			Frequency of SUTs updated			Latest SUTs are for (year)	Available quarterly GDP	SEEA	
	SNA Used	Base year of Real GDP	Available SUTs	Every year	Every 2 years	≥ 5 years			Accounts compiled	Plan for future
Seychelles	2008 SNA	2014	Y			√	2014	Y		Monetary assets account
Sierra Leone	1993 SNA	2006	N					N		
Somalia	2008 SNA	2017								
South Africa	2008 SNA	2010	Y			√	2017	Y	Energy, water, forest and fisheries	
South Sudan	2008 SNA	2010								
Sudan	1968 SNA	1981/82	N					N		
Togo	2008 SNA	2016	Y	√			2018	N		Physical and Monetary assets account
Tunisia	1993 SNA	2010	Y	√			2018	Y	Water account 2000-2015	Environmental expenditures account
Uganda	2008 SNA	2010	Y			√				
United Republic of Tanzania	2008 SNA	2015	Y			√	2015	Y		
Zambia	2008 SNA	2010	Y			√	2010	Y		
Zimbabwe	2008 SNA	2016	Y			√	2012	N		

Source: ECA survey, September 2020

Annex Table 2: Activities by Agencies and Partner Institutions

Activities	Country/countries beneficiary	Period of time for the activity to be carried out
AfDB		
(a) Completed activities (in the period 2019-2020)		
2017 regional international comparison program (ICP), data validation and editing workshop	All the participating countries (50 RMCs)	1-5, April 2019
Training workshop on the rollout of the country resilience and fragility assessment (CRFA) framework	21 RMCs as well as delegates from selected partner institutions: UNECA; AFRISTAT; UEMOA, and SADC	December 9-13, 2019
Regional workshop on sharing experiences on national accounts back casting	All West African and Economic and monetary Union (UEMOA) and Djibouti	11 to 15 November 2019
National accounts Scoping mission in Egypt	Staffs from the Ministry of Planning and CAPMAS (NSO)	17 to 19 September 2019
Joint ERETES scope mission in Cairo (Egypt) (INSEE and AfDB)	All staffs of the Ministry of Planning	16 to 18 December 2019
Joint review mission in Niamey (Niger) on Gross Domestic Product (GDP) rebasing assessment (Afristat, UEMOA, IMF, WB, UNECA)	All Staffs of INS of Niger	21-25 October 2019
Joint review mission in Lome (Togo) on Gross Domestic Product (GDP) rebasing assessment;	All Staffs of INSEED of Togo	27-31 January 2020.
National Accounts Peer Reviews for Countries in Africa	Uganda, Kenya, Botswana and Zambia	10- 13 September 2019
National Accounts Database Systems (NADABAS) Training Workshop for Countries in Africa.	Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, Zambia, Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa, Sudan and Uganda as well as representatives of the SADC Secretariat, Statistics Sweden, Statistics Norway and AfDB	January 28 – February 1, 2019
(b) On-going activities		
Preparation of the dissemination of 2017 ICP Results	54 RMCs	By the end of 2020
Preparation of the 2021 ICP round	54 RMCs	From January 2021
AfDB and IMF-AFRITAC Joint National Accounts Technical Assistance to countries	Eswatini, Botswana, Malawi and Zambia	Ongoing
(c) Planned activities		
Technical webinar on the implementation status of the 2008 SNA in RMCs	All French-speaking countries	05-09 October 2020
African Union Institute for Statistics (STATAFRIC)		
(a) Completed activities (in the period 2019-2020)		
Technical Assistance Missions to South Sudan's National Bureau of Statistics for the Implementation of the 2008 SNA	South Sudan	Apr. 15-18, 2019
Technical assistance on national accounts compilation	Tanzania NBS	Apr. 29-May 3, 2019
Technical assistance on national accounts compilation	EASTC, Tanzania	May 6, 2019

Activities	Country/countries beneficiary	Period of time for the activity to be carried out
Technical assistance for the implementation of the 2008	Cabo Verde	July 15-19, 2019
Technical assistance to DRC	DRC	Jul 22-Aug 2, 2019
Technical assistance to South Sudan for the implementation of the 2008 SNA	South Sudan	Aug. 26-29, 2019
Technical assistance to Tanzania for the implementation of the 2008 SNA	Tanzania (NBS)	Sept. 10-13, 2019
Training on national accounts	Tanzania (EASTC). 10 lecturers from EASTC participated in the technical assistance mission. All of them are responsible for teaching National Accounts or at least economic statistics	Sep.16-19, 2019
Technical assistance to Guinea	Guinea	21 Oct. -01 Nov. 2019
Technical assistance for the implementation of the 2008 SNA	Liberia	Nov. 11-15, 2019
Technical assistance for the implementation of the 2008 SNA	Burundi	March 2-13, 2020 and Dec. 2-13, 2019
Workshop/Training on Quarterly National Accounts for Ethiopia	Ethiopia	Mar. 11-14, 2019
Workshop on NA compilation issues for Anglophone countries	AUC, EASTC, SADC, Angola, Botswana, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia (The), Ghana, Lesotho, Mauritius, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.	June 19-21, 2019
Workshop on quarterly national accounts for French speaking countries	Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Gabon, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, Chad, Togo Tunisia, AUC, ECOWAS, AMU, AFRISTAT, AfDB	July 8-12, 2019
Workshop on quarterly national accounts for English speaking countries	Botswana, Egypt, Eswatini, Ghana, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and SACU	September 30-October 4, 2019
Workshop on National Accounts compilation issues for Francophone countries	Benin, Burkina Faso, CAR, Cameroon, Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea Equatorial, DRC, Madagascar, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, Chad, Togo, Tunisia, ECOWAS, AFRISTAT, and the World Bank.	October 22-25, 2019

Activities	Country/countries beneficiary	Period of time for the activity to be carried out
e-meeting on Quarterly national accounts compilation issues induced by the Covid-19 pandemic	Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Ghana, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Zimbabwe, AUC, AFRISTAT, ECOWAS, IGAD, SADC, INSEE, Expertise France/PAS	July 6-7, 2020
e-workshop Annual National Accounts Expert Group, carried out as remote activity	Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Ghana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, AUC, AfDB, UNECA, AFRISTAT, COMESA, EAC, ECOWAS, IGAD, SADC, UMA, Expertise France	July 16-17, 2020
Development a methodology on selected NA compilation issues	All 55 AU Member States (MS) and 8 RECs	June-Jul 2019
Support to the AUC for the development of a methodology for compiling Quarterly macroeconomic aggregates for Africa and the RECs and organization of an e-meeting to discuss the methodology	112 participants in the e-meeting including representatives from Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Eswatini, Ghana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, Seychelles, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, CEN-SAD, COMESA, EAC, ECCAS, ECOWAS, IGAD, UMA, SADC, AUC, AfDB, and AFRISTAT	July 13, 2020
(c) Planned activities		
Improve the “methodology for quarterly macroeconomic aggregates compilation for the Regional Economic Communities and the African Union”.	All 55 AU member + 8 RECs	October 2020 – April 2021
Organize follow-up e-trainings on quarterly national accounts. Two sessions (EN, FR) of two afternoons each	All 55 AU MS	October 2020 – April 2021

Activities	Country/countries beneficiary	Period of time for the activity to be carried out
Technical assistance	Ethiopia, Burundi, Liberia, Zimbabwe, Niger, Benin, and Madagascar	October 2020 – April 2021
Online WS on selected NA compilation issues for English Speaking Countries	Burundi, Tanzania, Guinea, DRC, South Sudan, and Sudan	October 2020 – April 2021
Manual on basics for the compilation of GDP for countries in Africa	All 55 AU MS and 8 RECs	October 2020 – April 2021
Support selected AU Member states in compiling supply and use tables (SUT)	Egypt, Eswatini, The Gambia, Lesotho, Liberia, Sudan, and Zambia	October 2020 – April 2021
Workshop on NA compilation issues	All 55 AU MS and 8 RECs	October 2020 – April 2021
CEMAC		
(a) Completed activities (in the period 2019-2020)		
Finalisation du projet Indice harmonisé des prix à la consommation finale des ménages en zone CEMAC	Cameroun, Centrafrique, Congo (Brazzaville), Gabon, Guinée Équatoriale, Tchad	Ce projet a été mis en œuvre entre 2017 et 2019 avec l'appui technique d'AFRISTAT sur financement de l'Union Européenne
(b) On-going activities		
Élaboration du Programme statistique sous régional de la CEMAC	Cameroun, Centrafrique, Congo (Brazzaville), Gabon, Guinée Équatoriale, Tchad Et toutes les institutions spécialisées de la sous-région	Le programme est décennal et doit couvrir la période 2021 - 2030
ECA		
(a) Completed activities (in the period 2019-2020)		
Project on the compilation and application of Environmentally Extended Supply-Use Tables of Energy and Forest (EE-SUTs)	- E-Training : 49 countries - f2f Regional Seminars (2): 15 countries (in Seminar 1) and 6 countries (in Seminar 2) - Technical assistance/national workshops: Burundi, Cameroon, Ghana, Morocco, Nigeria, and Senegal.	Oct 2018-Dec 2019
Joint project with UNCTAD on Trade in Value Added (TiVA)	Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, the Gambia, and Togo	Jan-Dec 2019
(b) On-going activities		
Capacity Building Programme on the Compilation and Application of Supply-Use Tables (SUTs)	- E-Training: 41 countries - f2f Regional Seminar: 29 countries - Technical assistance/national workshops : Eswatini, Seychelles, and Zambia	Sept 2017 --
Capacity-Building Programme on GDP Rebased	- E-Training : 47 countries - f2f Regional Seminar: 18 countries - Technical assistance/national workshops: Benin, Cote d'Ivoire,	Jan 2019 –

Activities	Country/countries beneficiary	Period of time for the activity to be carried out
	Mauritania, Niger, Sudan, and Togo.	
Capacity-Building Programme to support Member States in CPI Data collection	- Online Regional Seminar: 51 countries - Regional Seminar : - Technical assistance/national workshops :	May 2020 --
Project on building TiVA database in Africa	- E-Training : 48 countries - Regional Seminar : - Technical assistance/national workshops :	Sept 2020 --
IMF		
(a) Completed activities (in the period 2019-2020)		
PPI	Egypt	Jan13-22, 2019
Consumer Price Index	Tunisia	Feb18-22, 2019
METAC National Accounts Mission	Tunisia	FEBRUARY 18--22, 2019
Prices	Sudan	Feb 3-12, 2019
National Accounts and SUT tables	Sudan	February 17-21, 2019
National Accounts	Morocco	Jun10-11, 2019
National Accounts	Tunisia	June 10-14, 2019
National Accounts Mission	Egypt	July28-Aug8, 2019
METAC National Accounts Mission	Djibouti	September 8-19, 2019
Financial Accounts	Egypt	October 27-31,2019
EGY- Price Statistics Mission	Egypt	November 17-28, 2019
National Accounts	Tunisia	Jan13-17, 2020
National Accounts Statistics	Egypt	Jan27-Feb6, 2020
Sectoral Financial Accounts (Remote TA)	Tunisia	June 15-26, 2020
CPI mission	Libya	June1-12, 2020
Re-Development of National Accounts Compilation System (Remote TA)	Sudan	August 16-27, 2020
INSEE		
(a) Completed activities (in the period 2019-2020)		
National accounts with ERETES	Algeria	Mar-19
Quarterly accounts	Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia	Jul-19
National accounts, SNA 2008	Tunisia	Oct-19
National accounts with ERETES	Egypt	Dec-19
National accounts with ERETES	Cabo Verde	Feb-19
National accounts with ERETES	Cabo Verde	Jul-19
National accounts with ERETES	Cabo Verde	Dec-19
Automatic Balancing of the commodity flow	Burkina Faso	Mar-19

Activities	Country/countries beneficiary	Period of time for the activity to be carried out
Regional accounts	Ivory Coast	May-19
Backcasting methodology for national accounts	Afristat	Nov-19
WB		
(a) Completed activities (in the period 2019-2020)		
Rwanda-WAVES (Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem services) program	Rwanda	2013-2019
(b) On-going activities		
Uganda-WAVES program	Uganda	2018-2020
Zambia-WAVES program	Zambia	2017-2020
Morocco-WAVES program	Morocco	2019-2020
Egypt-WAVES program	Egypt	2019-2020
Africa Community of Practice on NCA	The whole of Africa	2020-2022

Source: ECA survey, September 2020
