

CM.2 Terminology and Branding of the Economic Accounting Statistical Standards

User consultation on proposed updates to terminology across the Economic Accounting Statistical Standards (EASSs)

Overview

The way macroeconomic statistics are communicated to users has a significant impact on how the statistics are interpreted and used. Macroeconomic statistics should be presented and communicated in ways that maximise the analytical usefulness of the data. An important aspect of communication is the terms that are attached to macroeconomic concepts.

Over the last decade, there has been a deliberate and significant effort to harmonise the concepts and methodologies across the Economic Accounting Statistical Standards (EASSs).

However, there are still some cases in which the terms used to describe the same concept, method, process or account vary across the standards, and even more so across countries. In addition, these terms have, in some cases, started to drift from the terms used by governments, businesses, and the public when presenting and communicating macroeconomic statistics.

The Communication Task Team (CMTT) was asked to examine the current terms used across the SNA, BPM and GFS and propose changes that would better align the terminology across the SNA, BPM, and GFS and improve clarity for users.

The guidance note is available [here](#).

We would appreciate your views on the proposed changes and ask that you complete the following survey and reflect the views of users as far as practically possible. Each question presents the existing term, the new proposed term and then seeks the user's perspective on whether the proposed change will improve

the understanding of the concepts being measured.

Instructions

For each question, please provide the answer by checking the relevant checkbox(es) and by typing in the framed textboxes, which will automatically expand to fit the text.

This printable version of the questionnaire is available for your convenience. If you have any questions, please contact sna@un.org or STABPM6Update@imf.org.

Sincerely,
SNA and BPM Secretariats

Please provide your information below:

Country _____

Institution/Organization _____

Name* _____

Position _____

Email* _____

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Table 1. Proposals for Further Alignment of Key Concepts in SNA/BPM/GFSM

Q1. Does the proposed new term improve your understanding of the concept?

	Current Terms	Proposed New Term	Improves Clarity	Neutral	Diminishes Clarity	Comments
1	Net transactions in Inventories	Changes in inventories				
2	Net transactions in Valuables	Acquisition less disposals of valuables				
3	Net transactions in non-produced assets	Acquisition less disposals of non-produced assets				
4	Net transactions in Contacts, leases, and licenses	Acquisition less disposals of contracts, leases and licenses				
5	Purchases less sales of goodwill and marketing assets /	Acquisition less disposals of goodwill and marketing assets				
6	Net transactions in Goodwill and marketing assets	Acquisition less disposals of goodwill and marketing assets				
7	Net errors and omissions	Statistical discrepancy				
8	Constant prices	Price-adjusted figures or data				
9	Compensation of employees	Employees' remuneration				
10	Consumption of fixed capital	Depreciation				
11	Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured	Financial service on loans and deposits				
12	Financial Lease	Finance lease				
13	Imputed Rental	Owner-occupied dwelling services				

	Current Terms	Proposed New Term	Improves Clarity	Neutral	Diminishes Clarity	Comments
14	Rent	Natural resource rent				
15	Resource lease	Natural resource lease				
16	Trade margin	Distribution trade margin				
17	Net exports of goods and services (under merchanting)	Balance of exports of goods and services (under merchanting)				
18	Net (non-life) insurance premiums	Total (non-life) insurance premiums less service charges				
19	Net re-insurance premiums	Total re-insurance premiums less service charges				
20	Net social contributions	Total social contributions less service charges				
21	Net fees (guarantees)	Total fees (guarantees) less service charges				
22	Output for own final use	Goods and services produced for own final use				
23	Product balance	Balance of the supply and use of a product				
24	Balance on trade in goods	Balance on international trade in goods				
25	Balance on trade in services	Balance on international trade in services				

Table 2. Proposals to Update the names of the accounts

Q2. Does the proposed new account name improve your understanding of the account?

	Current SNA Terminology	Proposed Update	Improves Clarity	Neutral	Diminishes Clarity	Comments
1	'Allocation of primary' income account	'Allocation of income' account				
2	'Secondary distribution of income' account	'Current transfers account				
3	'Use of disposable income' account	'Use of income' account				
4	'Use of adjusted disposable income' account	"Use of adjusted income' account				
5	Current Accounts: Production Account Generation of Income Account Allocation of Primary Income Account Secondary Distribution of Income Account Use of Disposable Income Account.	Production and Income Accounts: Production Account Generation of Income Account Allocation of Income Account Current Transfers Account Use of Income Account.				
6	Accumulation Accounts Capital Account Financial Account Other Change in Asset Account	Accumulation of Economic Asset Accounts Capital Account Financial Account Other Change in Asset Account				
7	Resources	Revenue				
8	Credits	Revenue				
9	Uses	Expenditure				
10	Debits	Expenditure				

11	Expenses	Expenditure				
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Table 3. Improved Branding of Manuals for Different Statistical Domains

Q3. Does the proposal improve your understanding of the subject in the manual?

	Current Name of the Manuals	Proposal	Improves Clarity	Neutral	Diminishes Clarity	Comments
1	No Umbrella for all manuals of economic statistics	Umbrella for all Manuals: Economic Accounting Statistical Standards (EASSs)				
2	National Accounts	National Economic Accounts				
3	Governments Finance Statistics Statements	Governments Finance Statistics Reports				

Q4. In order to maximize transparency, we would like to publish responses to global consultations. Do you give consent that your response to this questionnaire can be published?

Yes

No