## ESCAP STATISTICS DIVISION STATISTICAL INSTITUTE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (SIAP) PACIFIC COMMUNITY (SPC)

## Webinar on the 2025 System of National Accounts Pacific session 25 March 2025

## I. Background

The 2025 SNA framework will serve as the internationally recognized standard for compiling economic activity measures. It aims to enhance the understanding of wellbeing and sustainability while providing adaptable methods to integrate environmental and social dimensions into economic statistics. Critical conceptual and measurement issues, such as in advancements of digital products, the complex interplay between economic, social, and environmental factors, and the intricacies of global trade, have been harmonized and incorporated into the updated framework to a great extent.

As national statistical systems prepare to implement these updates, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Statistics Division, the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP), and the Pacific Community (SPC) will jointly organize a webinar, in collaboration with the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA) and Project Management Team, to inform participants about the objectives of the SNA update, its implementation strategy, and the key changes introduced in the 2025 framework. This webinar will also provide an overview of the consolidated recommendations for updating the 2008 SNA, ensuring that national statistical offices can transition smoothly to the revised framework. While the 2025 SNA update emphasizes international comparability, the implementation strategy acknowledges country-specific circumstances, including national priorities, data availability, and resource constraints. The discussion will highlight recommendations on how these updates can be implemented effectively, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region, where some economies face significant resource limitations.

### II. Objectives

The webinar targets statisticians with knowledge and experience in collecting, compiling, and communicating national accounts statistics. This includes national statistics offices, central banks, and similar organizations.

The objectives of the webinar are to:

- a. Introduce the main changes to the 2008 SNA and implications of such changes to the statistical systems in Asia and the Pacific region, including the following:
  - Conceptual updates, methodological updates, and presentation updates to the 2008 SNA

- Impact on GDP and NDP of the conceptual and methodological changes, and
- Additional data items/tables in the new framework
- b. Discuss the high-level plan for international organizations to support the 2025 SNA implementation in the Asia-Pacific region

Throughout the year, subsequent webinars will be conducted to introduce the key concepts and standards to be implemented under the 2025 SNA Framework.

### III. Structure and date of webinar

The webinar will be organized on 25 March 2025, 09:00-10:30 (UTC+9). The sessions will be conducted in English without interpretation. Participants may interact with the resource person to raise their questions.

| March 25    | Agenda                                  | Resource Person   |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 09:00-09:05 | Opening remarks (5 minutes)             | SIAP              |
| 09:05-09:10 | Pre-webinar survey on 2025 SNA          | Bimlesh Krishna,  |
|             | (5 minutes)                             | SPC               |
| 09:10-09:50 | Implications of the main changes to the | Peter Harper, SNA |
|             | 2008 SNA to Pacific economies           | Update Project    |
|             | (40 minutes)                            | Manager           |
| 09:50-10:10 | International support to implement the  | Peter Harper, SNA |
|             | 2025 SNA in the Pacific (20 minutes)    | Update Project    |
|             |                                         | Manager           |
| 10:10-10:25 | Question and Answer (15 minutes)        | Chesca Rosales,   |
|             |                                         | SIAP              |
| 10:25-10:30 | Closing remarks (5 minutes)             | SPC               |

Table 1. Schedule for Pacific economies

# IV. Registration and webinar materials

Interested participants may fill out the registration form in the following link or QR code:

https://forms.office.com/e/VF6PCRVrZn?origin=lprLink



The webinar recording and presentations will be made available on the <u>SIAP e-learning</u> website.

#### V. Relevant resources

This webinar builds on past activities introducing the new framework

- Global pre-session high level webinar introducing the 2025 System of National Accounts - <u>https://www.youtube.com/live/xlc7czb1U\_A</u>
- Outreach seminar activities on the 2025 SNA -<u>https://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/SNAUpdate/Outreach.asp</u>
- Webinar on updates to the Balance of Payments Manual and the System of National Accounts - <u>https://www.unescap.org/events/2024/webinar-updates-</u> <u>balance-payments-manual-and-system-national-accounts-pacific-countries</u>

The 2025 SNA Chapters are found in the UN Statistics Division website. https://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/SNAUpdate/2025/chapters.asp

Several Guidance Notes were prepared dealing with specific topics and issues. https://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/SNAUpdate/GuidanceNotes.asp