



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH IN INCOME AND WEALTH

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Details of the 38th IARIW General Conference Training Sessions on National Accounts and Poverty Measurement

National Accounts

Presenters:

Peter van de Ven, Carl Obst

Title: Insights on the Update of the System of National Accounts and Accounting for the Environment

Day 1 – Accounting for the Environment

August 24, 2024

9 AM- 5PM GMT

Location: King's College London, Strand Campus, Room TBA

The first part of the day will be dedicated to reviewing developments for standards in environmental economic accounting via the System of Environmental and Economic Accounts (SEEA) over the past 12 years and to providing an overview of key components across the SEEA Central Framework and SEEA Ecosystem Accounting. An extended discussion on ecosystem accounting and connections to the SNA will be provided, including, for example, the use of the net present value (NPV) method, measurement of degradation, and alternate income aggregates. Key conceptual challenges, such as the estimation of exchange values for non-market ecosystem services will be highlighted. The session will also describe emerging connections and applications of the SEEA, including links to international conventions (CBD, UNCCD, SDG), private sector environmental accounting, sustainable finance, risk assessments and scenario analysis. It will also include an exercise where participants can experiment with the compilation of some relevant tables.

The second part of Day 1 will zoom in on specific topics in environmental economic accounting. First, the session will discuss the measurement of depletion of natural resources, including discussion and findings emerging from the OECD Expert Group on Natural Capital tasked with developing practical guidance to assist countries in implementing recommendations on natural capital included in the 2025 SNA. The session will then discuss the valuation of ecosystem services, zooming in on specific conceptual and methodological complexities. Finally, it will reflect on how natural capital may best be integrated in the balance sheets, both in the SNA and in the SEEA, as well as in comprehensive wealth measures such as those published in the World Bank's Changing Wealth of Nations program.

Day 2 – Insights on the Update of the System of National Accounts

August 25, 2024

9 AM- 5PM GMT

Location: King's College London, Strand Campus, Room TBA

The first part of the day will provide a general overview of the System of National Accounts, including a historical overview, a description of its generic setup, and a summary of its key features, including the main balancing items. It will then zoom in on specific sectors, transactions and stocks as covered in the SNA sequence of economic accounts. Issues related to price and volume measurement will also be addressed.

The second part of Day 2 will focus on the most recent SNA update, providing participants an understanding of work accomplished to date and zooming in on the most important changes targeted for SNA2025. It will address issues related to, among others, globalisation, digitalization and well-being and sustainability. In addition to conceptual guidance, the session will reflect on practical implementation guidance for specific recommendations in development by dedicated Task Teams. Participants will acquire a broad overview of the new SNA guidance developed by international experts on a range of topics, along with insights into the underlying rationale for the forthcoming changes and the practical challenges associated with the SNA2025 enhancements.

Bios:

Peter van de Ven, Lead Editor, 2008 SNA update

Peter is currently the lead editor of the update of the 2008 SNA. He has been involved in national accounts since 1984. Peter was employed at Statistics Netherlands until 2011, as Director of National Accounts for the last 8 years. He was Head of National Accounts at the OECD for 10 years until 2021. Peter has been engaged in leadership roles for international standards on national accounts compilation for many years, including on the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts and the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on National Accounts. Peter occupied the role of president of the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth (IARIW) from 2010-2012.

Carl Obst, Director, Institute of Development of Environmental-Economic Accounting – IDEEA Group

Carl is a Director at the Institute for Development of Environmental-Economic Accounting - [IDEEA Group](#). He was the lead author and editor of the United Nation's System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) – the international standard for government work on accounting for natural capital. Prior to this work, Carl had a long career with the Australian Bureau of Statistics, including five years as the Head of National Accounts. He also worked for three years with the OECD Statistics Department. Carl's current work involves projects on natural capital accounting and sustainability measurement within the United Nations system, with the Capitals Coalition and with various companies and governments in Australia and internationally. Carl is a leading player in closing the gap between government and corporate approaches to natural capital accounting.

Poverty Measurement

August 24 and August 25, 2024

9 AM- 5PM GMT

Location: King's College London, Strand Campus, Room TBA

Presenters:

Dean Jolliffe, Nishant Yonzan, Samuel Kofi Tetteh Baah, and Shatakshee Dhongde.

Title:

Monitoring poverty and inequality in developing countries based on consumption data

This training will detail how to monitor poverty and inequality in developing countries. It will go through the key steps of monetary poverty analysis, including household survey data collection, creation of consumption aggregates, adjustments for price variation and household composition, construction of poverty lines, and calculation of different poverty measures. It will also go through the steps to measure multidimensional poverty. Finally, the course will demonstrate how to access harmonized consumption data from the World Bank's Poverty and Inequality Platform through Stata, R, and a remote-execution system, and include hands-on exercises with the data.

Bios:

Dean Jolliffe is a Lead Economist at the World Bank and was previously, co-director of the 2021 World Development Report on Data for Better Lives. He is a member of the Global Poverty & Inequality team and the Living Standards and Measurement Study team. Dean currently holds appointments at Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, the Institute for the Study of Labor, and the Global Labor Organization. He received his PhD in Economics from Princeton University.

Nishant Yonzan is an Economist at The World Bank. He works on the measurement of global poverty, prosperity, and inequality within the Development Data Group. He holds a PhD from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

Samuel Kofi Tetteh Baah is an Economist in the Development Data Group at The World Bank. His areas of expertise are the measurement of poverty and inequality. He is working on the updates of the

global and regional poverty numbers of the World Bank. He holds a PhD from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Zurich, Switzerland.

Shatakshee Dhongde is an Associate Professor of Economics at Georgia Tech. She is also a research affiliate with the Institute of Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Her research has focused on the economics of poverty. Her papers measure poverty in its many forms and have been published in leading economics journals. She obtained her PhD from the University of California, Riverside.

Registration Portal

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