

Table 1. The 2008 SNA Implementation Plan Components – Country: ALBANIA

	Status 2012 ¹	Main problems and planned activities in 2012	Progress made since 2012	Outstanding problems and future activities	Need for TA, training, guidelines	Planned timeframe
STAGE 1 - Review of national or regional statistical strategic papers to include there the 2008 SNA implementation						
Identification of and consultation with the main stakeholders for the 2008 SNA implementation. Institutional agreements.	Ongoing	Memorandum of Understanding and expanding collaboration with other institutions: Ministry of Finance, Bank of Albania, Authority of Financial Supervisory, research institutes, other agencies providing data, financial institutions, funds and other directories in INSTAT involved in data collections.	The Joint Directive has been drafted as an inter-institutional framework of data-sharing and a cooperation agreement with all government agencies. It is supplemented with the detailed data-sharing protocol and is currently under consideration with the management.	Responsibility for compiling SNA financial account and balance sheet data is yet to be defined. Legal basis and institutional arrangements between MOF and INSTAT for compiling EDP tables are yet to be set up.	No need	1 year
Prioritization for 2008 SNA, based on user needs and resources.	Ongoing	Promotion of 2008 SNA to users. Lack of educated human resources including IT, insufficient budget for surveys, lack of coordination between different institutions.	We consider as a priority to improve (i) GDP scope (disseminate GDPE, SUT, and quarterly estimates in greater level of detail); (ii) timeliness to follow SDDS; (iii) implement 2008 SNA methodology for mineral exploration, R&D, FISIM, etc; (iv) implement NACE, Rev.2.	Resource constrains, including IT resources; low statistical reporting discipline.	Need for: education of users to understand the changes that the implementation of 2008 SNA will bring, experience of other countries of new data collected for this purpose.	1-2 years
Inclusion of the implementation of the 2008 SNA in the overall strategic plan of the statistical office	Ongoing and discussed	In 5 year statistical program (2012-2016) is mentioned that INSTAT will start working for the implementation of 2008 SNA)	INSTAT has been assigned as a coordinator for the administrative data-exchange initiative for NA compilation. This role has been included in the Memorandum of Economic and Financial Policies (MEFP) between Government and IMF. The requirements of ESA 2010 Transmission Program are incorporated in the Statistical Program of INSTAT.		No need	Within 1 year
Adoption of detailed action plan for 2008 SNA.	Ongoing, but has to be further discussed	Discussion needs to take place in the highest hierarchical level of INSTAT, Statistical Council. Preparation of draft versions of,	Elements of 2008 SNA action plan have been incorporated in existing TA projects with EU and IMF. Short-term	Clarification of priorities and cooperation between different donors would still be in need.	No need	1-2 years

¹ Not available yet, discussed, planned, on-going, finished, etc.

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		short, medium and long-term plan.	priorities for developing NA compilation system are routinely discussed at donors' meetings.			
STAGE 2 - Review of work needed to support implementation of the 2008 SNA						
Adoption of new classifications and other improvements in business registers and business statistics	Ongoing	Implementation of classifications in administrative registers and in business register, back-casting of the data series.	Have been done in business register but still not fully implemented in business statistics.	Need to maintain working databases in greater level of detail (by activities).	TA or training on back-casting of time series.	1-2 years
Changes in business statistics surveys and questionnaires to collect the necessary source data	Ongoing	Budget for surveys, knowledge, IT platforms, collaboration with other institutions, sampling techniques.	Currently surveys are based on double classification. The SBS, SBS construction, STS, and HBS questionnaires have been recently revised to include 2008 SNA requirements.	Timeliness of data, IT resources, collection of data (mainly using hard copies), statistics reporting discipline, data validation procedures.	TA and experience of other countries	1-3 years
Changes in other related source statistics compiled by the statistical office	Ongoing	Data on number and wages of government employees need to be compiled in greater level of detail (e.g., by grade) and following the detailed COFOG.	Collection of detailed data on extra budgetary funds was discussed at INSTAT. Steps on setting up collection for NPISH.	Staff and IT constrains, collection of data (mainly using hard copies).	TA and experience of other countries	1-3 years
Review of related macroeconomic data sets compiled outside the statistical office (e.g. BoP, GFS, MFS)	Ongoing		INSTAT has developed FISIM workbook based on MFS data and supplementary tables. The estimates of export and import of FISIM following new methodology are to be reconciled with BOA. Discrepancies with BOP data have been recently resolved. Work is underway to adjust GFS data (which are mainly on cash bases, especially for revenues) to SNA needs.	Discrepancies between MFS data and BOA supplementary tables are yet to be resolved. Recording of nonperforming loans (NPL) is to be clarified. Discussion with MOF is underway.	TA on compilation of EDP Tables and further elaboration of government sector accounts.	1-3 years
Adaptation of administrative data sources to new requirements	Ongoing	Quality of data sources, most data available in hard copies only, difficulties in collecting data.	The required fields from Tax Authorities database are transferred to INSTAT and processed. More data are available for financial sector including insurance.	Data on government fixed assets is yet to be made available for application of PIM.	TA in application of PIM	1-2 years

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IT and other changes. Staff resources.	Has to be discussed and planned	Lack of IT stuff, software, set up of data warehousing.	The increase of INSTAT NA staff resources – 26 staff members.		YES – for IT staff and new staff members	1-3 years
STAGE 3 - Development of National Accounts and changeover to the 2008 SNA						
Main priorities for SNA implementation						
Outstanding issues from SNA 1993: - quarterly accounts - financial accounts - constant prices - sequence of accounts - regional accounts	Ongoing	Quality of data sources, timelines of short-term indicators, development of administrative data.	For quarterly accounts work has been done to improve the scope, developing quarterly GDPE, constructing chain-linked series and implementing methodological improvements. Regional accounts have been developed and published. Constant price estimates improved for government, taxes and FISIM.	Work is underway to introduce double deflation method based on newly developed SUT data.	Is needed for most of activities: TA, short guidelines, workshops on sequence of accounts.	1-5 years
New issues arising from the 2008 SNA: - Sectorisation: financial sector, government and public sector - FISIM - R&D	Ongoing	Further specifications of scope of transactions in government and public sector and in production boundary. Further specifications of statistical units and revisions in institutional sectoring.	Sectorisation of financial sector is improved; scope of variables for financial sector has been increased. New methodology for FISIM, insurances, Central Bank output has been implemented. Other main changes between SNA 1993 and 2008 which supposed to have impact on Albanian GDP are Mineral Exploration and R&D.	More work to be done for R&D in current and constant prices; improve data on mineral exploration.	Is needed for most of activities: TA, short guidelines, workshops, good practice and experience of other countries	1-3
Main issues affecting GDP						
i. GDP by production approach in current prices and in volume measures in annual and quarterly level (NACE sections level)	Ongoing	Data sources, coverage, quality, and deflators.	Newly developed SUT tables (but not published) which will improve annual estimation and deflation of GDP, as well as help to reconcile GDPP and GDPE at micro level. New estimates of NOE, revision of estimates following results of 2011 Population Census.	Work on compiling annual SUT continues. Compilation and disseminating in greater level of detail is considered. Incorporation of data from 2012 Agriculture Census is underway.	TA	1-2 years

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ii. GDP by expenditure approach in current and volume measures in annual and quarterly level (all categories of expenditure).	Ongoing	Data sources, coverage, quality of data and deflators.	Product flow method is applied to verify HBS data for final household consumption expenditures (FHCE). The method uses SUT tables. Estimates of GFCF have been revised using the updated bridge tables between BEC and relevant CN. Quarterly GDP by expenditure approach has been developed (not published).	Reconciliation of HH income and expenditures is to be performed.	TA	1-2 years
GNI and other primary indicators						
For rest of the world – external accounts of primary income and current transfers, capital and financial accounts (BPM 6)	Has to be discussed and planned	Closer cooperation with Central Bank (data sources, coverage, methodology, quality).	Discrepancies between BOA and INSTAT data on external trade have been resolved.	Joint work to be done on remittances.	TA	2-5 years
Institutional sector accounts (non-financial accounts)						
For all institutional sectors – Production and Income account	Ongoing and Planned	National Project: Data sources, coverage, quality and deflators.			Is needed for most of activities: TA and training	2-5 years
For general government – Generation of income, Allocation of primary income, Secondary distribution of income, Use of disposable income, Capital accounts	Has to be discussed and planned	National Project	Work is underway to produce sector accounts for the government (up to financial account). Discussions have been conducted with MOF on recording of social security schemes and extra budgetary funds.	Work on compiling data for government capital account	Is needed for most of activities: TA and training	2-5 years
For all institutional sectors – Generation of income, Allocation of primary income, Secondary distribution of income, Use of disposable income, Capital accounts	Long-term planning			Resource constrains		
Institutional sector accounts: Financial account						

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For all institutional sectors – Financial account	Long-term planning			Legal and institutional background for compilation is to be developed.		
Institutional sector accounts: Balance sheets						
For all institutional sectors – Other changes in assets account, Balance sheets	Long-term planning			Legal and institutional background for compilation is to be developed.		