



**United
Nations**

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

Guidance Notes and Experimental Estimates

National Accounts Annual Seminar Latin America and the Caribbean Emerging issues and new challenges in the measurement of economic statistics: an agenda for change

Virtual meeting, 3-6 October 2022

United Nations Statistics Division



DESA

Statistics Division

The impact of the new recommendations

Task Team on
issues relating
Communication

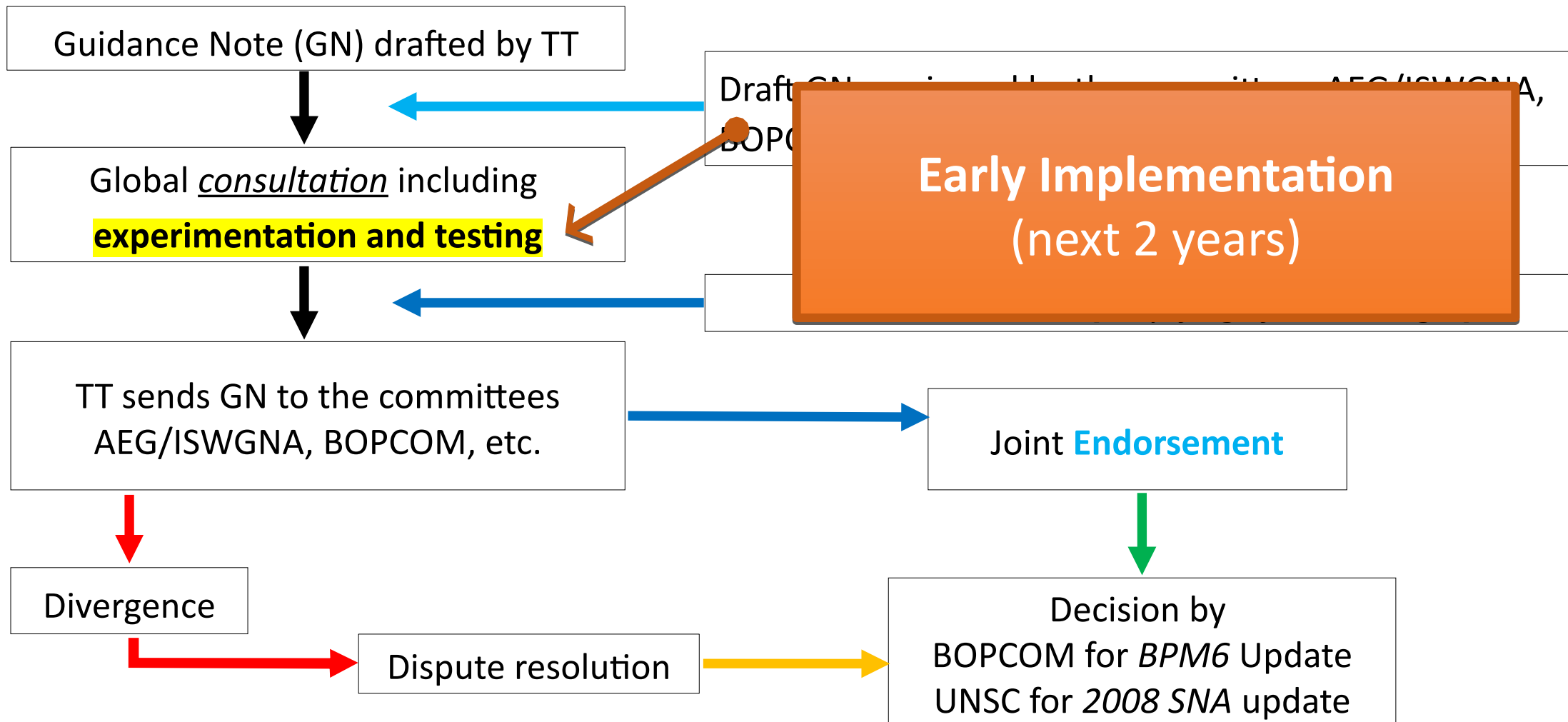
The SNA update work is in full swing:

- Most of the **research work** has been conducted;
- Several Guidance Notes (GN) have been **endorsed** for publication;
- Other GNs are in the process to be cleared for global consultation (GC);

The recommendations can be categorized in terms of their impact on the NA concepts and definitions. Nonetheless, it is important to be aware of their potential impact on the current **compilation practices**, for instance:

Type 1:	Proposes a change to the 2008 SNA boundaries
Type 2:	Proposes a change to the 2008 SNA Central Framework
Type 3:	Proposes supplementary tables (within boundaries)
Type 4:	Proposes extended/satellite accounts (beyond boundaries)

Guidance Note Life Cycle





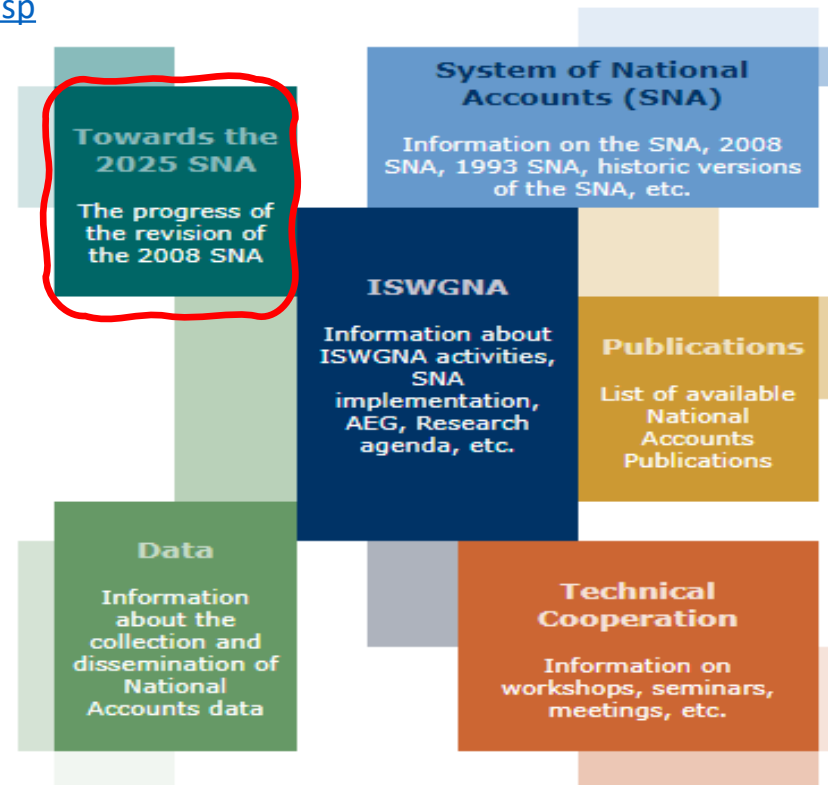
National Accounts

<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/default.asp>

About the National Accounts Section

The National Accounts Section of the United Nations Statistics Division:

- ▶ Contributes to the international coordinated development and updating of the **System of National Accounts (SNA)**; and undertakes methodological research on issues on the **research agenda** of the SNA in collaboration with the **Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA)**.
- ▶ Supports the **implementation programme of the SNA** by developing and updating supporting normative standards, training material and compilation guidance for the implementation of national accounts and supporting economic statistics and maintaining a **knowledge base on economic statistics**.
- ▶ Delivers a **statistical capacity building programme** for the implementation of the 2008 SNA and supporting statistics through a series of regional and interregional workshops and seminars in collaboration with the regional commissions and regional agencies and through a limited number of individual country technical assistance missions.
- ▶ Collects and disseminates **annual national accounts statistics** from countries and provides substantive service to the Committee on Contributions of the Fifth Committee of the United Nations on technical aspects of the elements of scale methodology for assessing the contributions to the United Nations by Member States.
- ▶ Publishes the outputs of the Section in various **publications** of UNSD.



Consultations on issues for the update of the 2008 SNA
Consultations

National Accounts News

Updated
15 February 2022

National Accounts Capacity Building Resources website is now available. This website is aimed at providing a single-entry point to trusted resources for National Accounts capacity-development

The latest online release of the National Accounts - Analysis of Main Aggregates (AMA) is now available at the following [link](#). The Yearbook is also available for download [here](#).



Latest
National
Accounts
Brochure

Towards the 2025 SNA

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You are here: ISWGNA >> Updating the SNA >> Towards the 2025 SNA

Towards the 2025 SNA

About the updating process

The [Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts \(ISWGNA\)](#), assisted by the [Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts \(AEG\)](#), oversees the overall 2008 SNA update programme.

The [Project Management](#) page contains all documents (workprogramme, governance arrangements, progress reports of the project manager, reports to the UNSC, minutes of ISWGNA meetings, etc.) relevant to the management of the update project.

A three-pronged approach is envisaged for the update of the 2008 SNA:

A. Undertaking technical research in prioritized and other national accounts issues and experimentation and testing of selected recommendations.

To address the issues a series of [Guidance Notes](#) are being developed. This list is based on the consolidated SNA research agenda and an [initial list of issues](#) considered for updating the 2008 SNA which was identified in July 2020.

A novel key feature within the research component of the update of the 2008 SNA work programme is the explicit inclusion of an [experimental estimation / early implementation](#) component for some recommendations in the guidance notes.

Dedicated task teams were established to undertake the technical research and draft guidance notes.

B. Engaging in a broad consultation on the issues related to the thematic areas.











The Broad Consultation component of the SNA update constitutes several rounds of interactions with various groups of stakeholders such as compilers, policymakers, academia, and the private sector. Among the instruments used to broadcast the update and collect feedback are online [Global Consultations](#) on the guidance notes and [Outreach](#) activities through global and regional webinars and forums.

C. Ensuring overall consistency with other statistical standards in the system of economic statistics.

For overlapping issues in the research agendas identified for the SNA, BPM, GFS, MFSM, SEEA, ISIC and CPC etc., the Task Teams were established consisting of subject matter experts from relevant Committees of Experts and other groups.

As of March 2022, of specific note is the historically close collaboration of the work on the [update of the BPM6](#) and the 2008 SNA and the efforts to align the two standards, as well as the engagement of the [Government Finance Statistics Community](#) in the update programme.

List of Task Teams

-  [Digitalization Task Team](#)
-  [Wellbeing and Sustainability Task Team](#)
-  [Joint Globalization Task Team](#)
-  [Joint Communication Task Team](#)
-  [Joint Financial and Payment Systems Task Team](#)
-  [Joint Informal Economy Task Team](#)
-  [Joint Islamic Finance Task Team](#)
-  [BPM Balance of Payments Task Team](#)
-  [BPM Current Account Task Team](#)
-  [BPM Direct Investment Task Team](#)

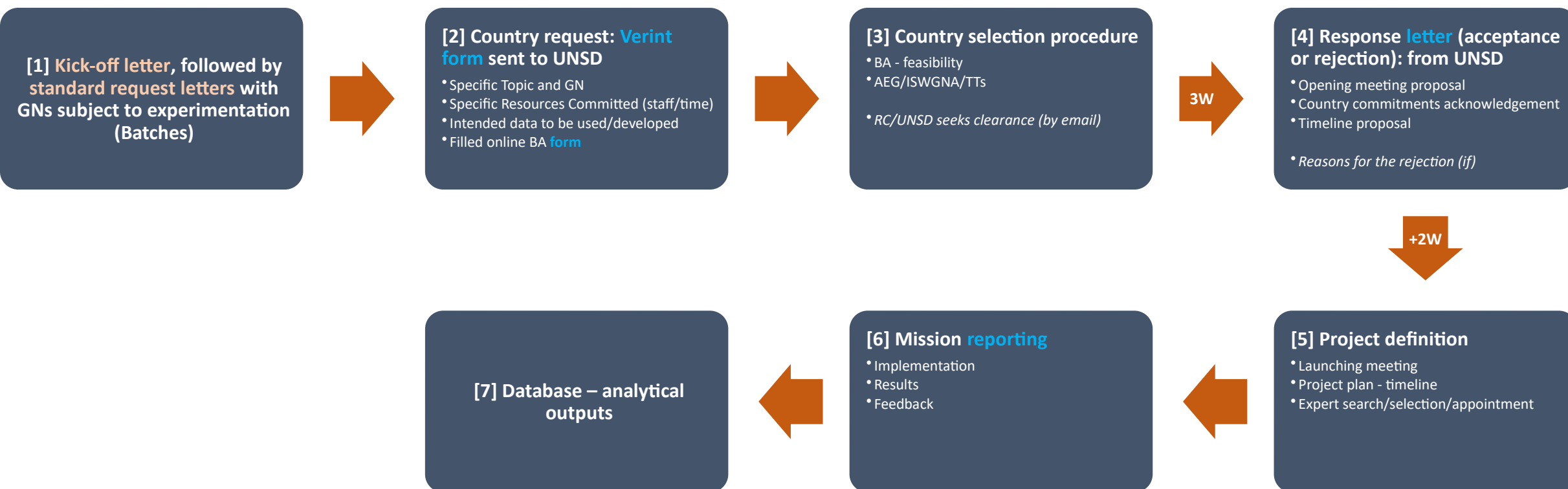
Consultations

Consultations

Below is the list of consultations carried out on the 2008 SNA update issues. Detailed information and available comments for each consultation can be accessed by selecting the corresponding consultation from the list.

Consultation	Posted	Status	Deadline	Report
Testing - Assessment of FISIM Compilation Methodologies and Practices	9/19/2022	Closed	9/19/2022	No
Testing - CM.1 An Assessment Framework to Measure Alignment with the International Economic Accounting and Statistics Standards	8/23/2022	Closed	9/23/2022	No
Testing - DZ.6 Recording of Data in the National Accounts - Questionnaire for Phase 1 testing	8/23/2022	Open	10/31/2022	No
WS.8 Biological Resources & WS.10 Mineral and Energy Resources & WS.11 Renewable Energy Resources	7/6/2022	Closed	9/15/2022	No
Testing - F.2 Asymmetric Treatment of Retained Earnings	7/6/2022	Closed	9/30/2022	No
WS.9 Recording of Provisions	6/29/2022	Closed	8/24/2022	No
WS.7 Treatment of Emission Permits	5/25/2022	Closed	6/23/2022	No
DZ.9 Incorporating Digital Intermediation Platforms into the System of National Accounts	5/18/2022	Closed	6/16/2022	No
DZ.7 Improving the Visibility of Artificial Intelligence in the National Accounts	5/18/2022	Closed	6/16/2022	No
F.14 Treatment of Factoring Transactions	5/17/2022	Closed	6/10/2022	No
F.13 Margins on Buying and Selling Transactions	5/17/2022	Closed	6/10/2022	No
DZ.6 Recording of data in the National Accounts	4/14/2022	Closed	5/13/2022	No
DZ.3 Treatment of "free" Digital Products in the "core" National Accounts & DZ.4 Recording and Valuing "free" Digital Products in an SNA Satellite Account	4/14/2022	Closed	5/13/2022	No
WS.5 Health and Social Conditions	4/11/2022	Closed	5/2/2022	No
IE.1 Statistical Framework for the Informal Economy	2/3/2022	Closed	3/4/2022	Yes
F.18 The Recording of Crypto Assets in Macroeconomic Statistics	2/1/2022	Closed	2/25/2022	Yes
F.15 Debt Concessionality	2/1/2022	Closed	2/25/2022	Yes

Experimental Estimates – proposed flow



Harmonized templates

Experimental Estimates – Country request

The *starting point* of this exercise was the **kick-off letter** that UNSD sent in December 2021 to the heads of the statistics offices. This will be followed by a call for interest to participate as a volunteer to test/experiment in specific NA areas (by a **standard request letter**):

The **standard request letter** (that will accompany the notification to the NA areas) typically contains the following information requested from volunteers:

- Specific topic(s) and related Guidance Note(s) subject to experimentation
- Human resources that will be devoted to the project (staff and time)
- Type and source of the data to be used in or developed for the estimates

The request from volunteer countries will be assessed based on a baseline assessment of metadata for the relevant countries

Structural information / Baseline assessment

Sample Form

Metadata Entry Form

Country [dropdown] **Load Data** **Close Form**

National Accounts Compilation | Source Data | Methods | Other Accounts

Metadata Entry Form

Country [dropdown] **Load Data** **Close Form**

National Accounts Compilation | Source Data | Methods | Other Accounts

Regular S

Prod

Establishme

Household

Metadata Entry Form

Country [dropdown] **Load Data** **Close Form**

National Account

Volume

Country [dropdown] **Load Data** **Close Form**

National Accounts Compilation | Source Data | Methods | Other Accounts

Satellite Accounts

	Yes	No
Tourism	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Agriculture	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

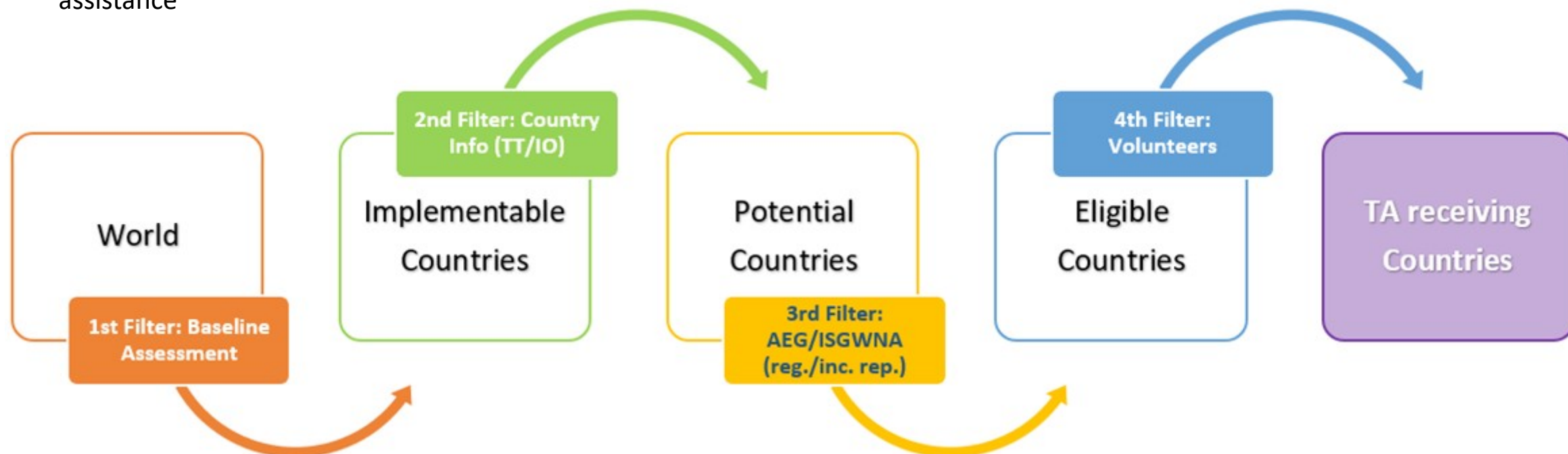
Experimental Estimates – Country selection

Principles

- Countries from diverse geographical and statistical development groups
- The baseline assessment, on the other hand is intended to be global
- Countries needing support will receive technical assistance

Selection Criteria

- Baseline assessment
- Input from Task Teams and I/R organizations
- Current countries' development plans
- Final list of potential countries endorsed by the AEG/ISWGNA



Experimental Estimates – Response to Countries

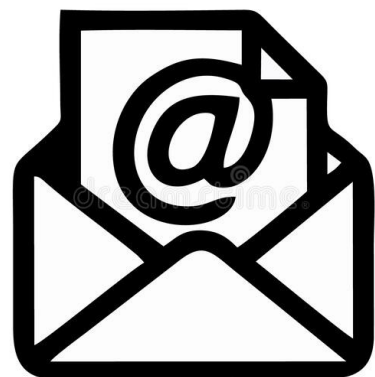
Official **response letter** informing the selection (or not), which contains the following information:

- Proposed agenda and date for the opening meeting with the team in charge of the project
- Acknowledgement of the time and staff requirements/committed to carry out the project
- Detailed outline and timeline proposal for the project (ideally between 6 and 9 months)
- If a request is not selected, the letter will clearly state the reasons (e.g., geographical overrepresentation), and may propose alternative arrangements

Experimental Estimates – Following steps

- ✓ Project definition: **Terms of Reference**
- ✓ **Project report** with the details of the project outcomes and process (feedback)
 - Future guidance
- ✓ Results reporting/sharing: centralized database – analytical **tables/reports**

Thank you for your attention



**Questions?
sna@un.org**