

# **The Role of Microdata in National Accounts**

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## Paper Abstract:

This paper deals with the issue of micro and macro data integration when the purpose is to build micro-founded accounts for the household sector. The last decade debate on progress and well-being has stressed the necessity of putting people first, also within the National Accounts (NAs) system. This means giving more attention to the households sector and sub-sectoring seems to be the straightforward solution. However, whatever the chosen sub-sectoring, it would hardly satisfy users' requests, since these change across users and over time. An alternative solution could be the adoption of a basic accounting system for households with satellite tables showing the accounting of a variety of sub-sectors. However, this solution is practicable only if households' macro aggregates are micro-founded. Thus, the integration of households' micro data in the NAs' macro aggregates becomes crucial. The challenge is to find the best possible way to reconcile or align them.