

## **Implementation of the SNA: starting the 2008 SNA and pursuing the 1993 SNA**

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### **Abstract**

This paper describes the compilation process of the 2005 base year for the Cameroon national accounts, which started in 2008. To compile this base year, three methodological challenges were identified: implement some aspects of the 1993 SNA regarding households, take into account recommendations of the 2008SNA relevant to our economy, and upgrade some classifications mainly based on the ISIC revision 4. Data challenges were the integration of the 2005 general census of population and housing, the 2007 standard living survey, and the 2009 general company census. Tackling these challenges led to an overall 14.4% change in the GDP, with 0.3% accounting for the 2008SNA improvement, 0.3% accounting for the 1993SNA improvement, and 13.8% accounting for data improvement. Compared to the 2005 provisional accounts, the GDP then increased by 21.6%.

Specifically, the expectation approach recommended by the SNA2008 was implemented to compute the output of non-life insurance sector by adjusting the estimated claims incurred through smoothing and Box & Jenkins techniques. The Cameroon-airlines Combi crash in 2000 was an interesting case with huge claims incurred and high discrepancy between the former and the 2008SNA output estimates. Following the 2008SNA, The FISIM was split into sectors and industries, resulting to 0.4% decrease of intermediate consumption and 0.2% increase of household final consumption expenditure. The 2008SNA recommendation regarding the inclusion of military weapon systems in government GCF were already adopted in old series since Government weapon systems were never split into civil and military use. Likewise, the production of the central bank regulatory services was not integrated because the Central bank (BEAC) is an extraterritoriality. Going ahead with the implementation of the 1993SNA, the estimates of non-market production of households in fetching water was performed. Our findings are that final consumption expenditure in water should be doubled based on the 2007 standard living survey. In terms of coverage, the estimates of the GFCF on construction of owner-occupied dwelling were carried out. We found that half of the 2005 old GFCF for construction should be added when taking into account the 2005 population census. In terms of the SNA central framework and data quality, two major improvements were done: the compilation of financial account and the breaking down of the GFCF by industries.