

Development of International Guidelines and Frameworks for Micro Statistics on Household Income, Consumption and Wealth

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An International Expert Group, sponsored by the OECD and chaired by the ABS, is developing new international guidelines for the compilation of micro statistics on household wealth, and a comprehensive and integrated framework for micro statistics on household income, consumption and wealth. The new guidelines and framework will be aligned with the existing international micro statistics standards, and wherever possible with the standards for macro statistics in the SNA.

The micro group is one of two Expert Groups formed by the OECD Committee on Statistics, in response to some of the recommendations of the 'Report by the Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress', 2009, particularly recommendation 4: "Give more prominence to the distribution of income, consumption and wealth". The direction being taken by the micro Expert Group is consistent with much international and national research over many years, including, the *Final Report and Recommendations of the Expert Group on Household Income Statistics* (2001), commonly referred to as the *Canberra Group Handbook*, and the *Canberra Group Handbook on Household Income Statistics, Second Edition* (2011).

Comprehensive publications for the new wealth guidelines, and for the household income, consumption and wealth framework, are to be developed by the end of 2012. This paper provides the policy and research context for the further development of micro statistics on household income, consumption and wealth, and reports on the key features of the micro Expert Group's work on both publications.