

Time spent on Unpaid Household Service Work to complement GDP

UNSD and the
Expert Group on Innovative and Effective Ways to Collect Time-Use Statistics

Francesca Grum
Chief, Demographic and Social Statistics Branch
United Nations Statistics Division





A few pending questions...



How “far beyond” GDP do we want to go?

Only a few steps => same monetary metric; same accounting principles, etc

Far enough to make a clear distinction and show that we are looking for “complementarity” and an independent measure capturing other dimensions of wellbeing and QL of life

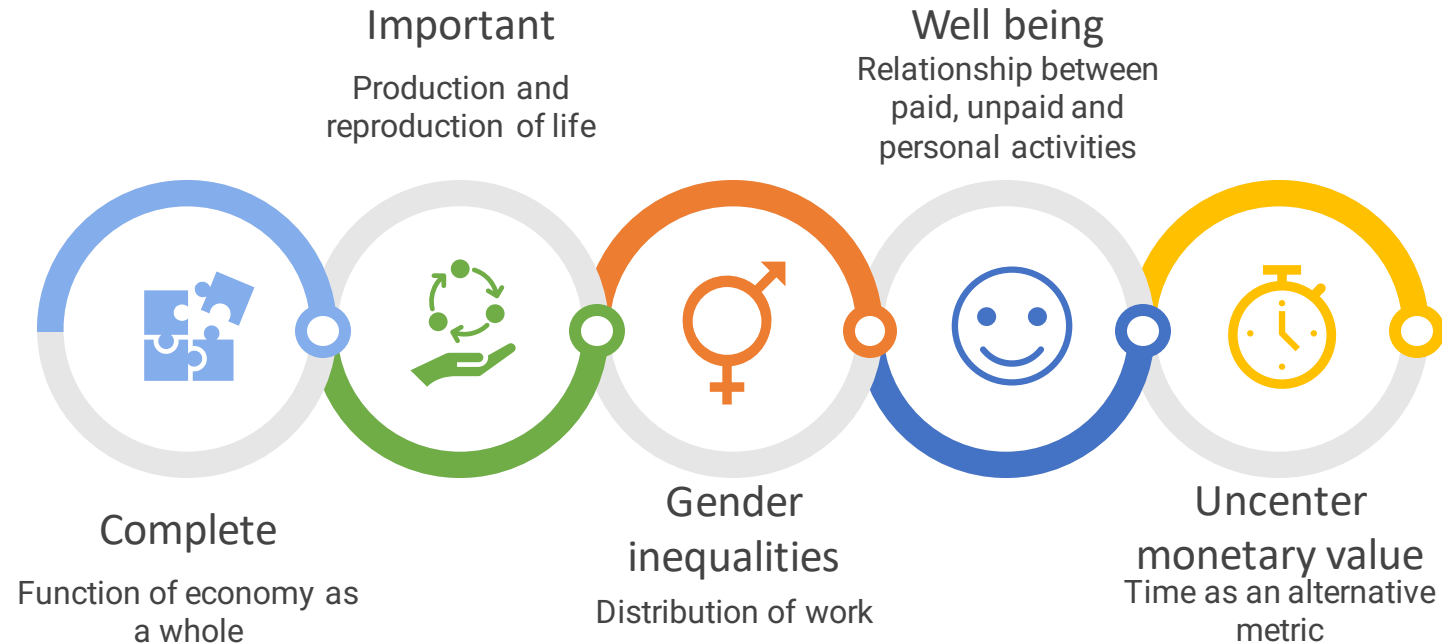


How to ensure countries’ ownership of Beyond GDP measures

Issues of national capacity and sustainability/replicability to produce some of the proposed measures



Making the case for measuring unpaid household service work as a complementary measure to GDP



WHY an indicator on unpaid household service work to complement GDP is a MUST?



Strong commitment to measure unpaid household service work

Indicator 5.4.1: Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location



Towards the 2025 SNA: Wellbeing and sustainability

Account for non-market activity performed within and between households without monetary compensation



Comparability with GDP: Same accounting principles

Covering productive activities outside SNA boundary but within general production boundary

Intended destination of production	For own final use			For use by others							
Forms of work	Own-use production work			Employment (work for pay or profit)			Unpaid trainee work	Other work activities	Volunteer work		
	Of services		Of goods						In market and non-market units goods	In households producing	
				goods	services						
ICATUS	4. Unpaid caregiving services for household and family members	3. Unpaid domestic services for household and family members	2. Production of goods for final use	1. Employment and related activities			5. Unpaid volunteer, trainee and other unpaid work				
				11. Employment in corporations, government and non-profit institutions	12. Employment in household enterprises to produce goods	13. Employment in households and household enterprises to provide services	53. Unpaid trainee work and related activities	59. Other unpaid work activities	51. Unpaid direct volunteering for other households 52. Unpaid community- and organization-based volunteering	for other organization	
Type of work	Unpaid work			Paid work			Unpaid work				
Relation to 2008 SNA			Activities within the SNA production boundary								
			Activities inside the SNA general production boundary								



National experience on valuating unpaid household service work

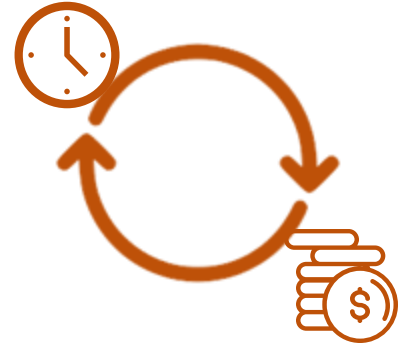
Several countries have produced extended accounts on unpaid household work

An indicator on unpaid household service work as a complementary measure to GDP is a MUST!



Time as a metric

- Shift focus from monetary value = Measure and value what matters to people
- Allows conversion to monetary values = Time is money!
- Feasible



Some of the alternative measures discussed at the sprints could be difficult for NSOs to implement (lack of capacity; resources; resistance in using complex statistical methods)



Time use surveys are part of the statistical programmes of 92 countries

Minimum
harmonized
instrument



International Guidelines = harmonization + comparability + quality + more data



Questions capturing background characteristics

[illegible]

What's next



1. Continue collaboration with ISWGNA:

- Feedback on work on extended accounts on household unpaid service work
- Share guidelines on measuring time use data

2. Assist countries in using minimum harmonized instrument: light time-use surveys instrument to answer SDG 5.4.1

3. Contribute to Beyond GDP discussions:

- Promoting outcomes of Network of Economic Statisticians' Sprints
- Ensuring participation of NSO TUS experts and other partners (**Promote common language**);
Assess challenges faced by countries when moving Beyond GDP

4. Recommend to select **Beyond GDP measures from SDG framework**: avoid overburden member states

- Adopted framework
- 1/3 of 231 indicators are people based - going beyond GDP to capture wellbeing